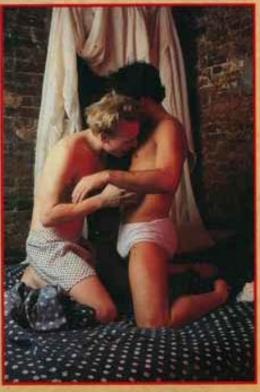
NEW YORK'S

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FEATURES

ARE BOYS DOIN' IT WHEN THEY DO IT?

George DeStefano investigates the slippage in safer sex



The Real Deal, see Gossip Watch p. 47.

OUTSPOKEN

Common Ground

It would be comforting to claim, as some have, that any disharmony between Black, Latino and gay AIDS groups during the recent Myers debate was manufactured by the media. But sadly, it seems there are some real disagreements which need to be openly debated. Such a debate was impossible in the heated atmosphere surrounding Myers' appointment. As the dust settles, however, it would be useful to begin a realistic appraisal of the differences which threatened to spin out of control during that episode, and could again in a future crisis.

To start, it's important to recognize certain facts that continue to haunt our struggle.

As it is everywhere else, racism is a major problem in the gay community. It would be utopian to think that the illogic of oppression which white gays and lesbians experience has helped them question and challenge their racism more than straights. Perhaps some have. But that's not saying much in a culture where racist attitudes permeate every aspect of life. The opinion expressed by some people of color that white gay criticism of Myers was inherently racist was not without basis. Its basis is the bitter experience of racism that gay people of color undergo at the hands of white gays and lesbians every day.

Conversely, homophobia is as prevalent among people of color as among whites. The fact that those leading the Black and Latino fights against AIDS tend more often to be straight than gay is causing many in our community to charge that minority AIDS organizations run by straights are unsympathetic to our issues. While some in the gay AIDS community believe we must compromise with such homophobic realities, clearly most disagree.

All of these unhappy facts contributed to a rapid unraveling of unity during the Myers debacle, and it's unlikely they can be eliminated soon. In such an inherently troubled situation, it's useful to search for the common threads that can stitch our disparate groups together. In the fight against AIDS, those threads are strong, binding and near at hand.

They include the basic search for a cure, the struggle to educate about safer sex and drug use, the fight against AIDS discrimination, the battle for funding, the search for a vaccine, the right of access to affordable health care, the right to decent housing for PWAs and equal access to drug trials that are humane for all people. These mutual interests swamp whatever disagreements we have. If we focus on them, while working to find common ground on our differences, we can hope to roll forward not as a series of weak and disparate streams, but as a powerful river in the fight against AIDS.

Every person involved in this fight needs to engage in the struggle for unity. No one can pass the buck. But perhaps those most able to assist in this healing are gays and lesbians of color. Living in, and sometimes buffeted by, both worlds, they personify the bridge both communities need. This healing task adds to their burdens. But it also illuminates their unique nature as a people twice, and in the case of lesbians of color, thrice blessed. ▼

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Publisher **Editor in Chief** Associate Publisher **Art Director News Editor**

Arts Editor Features Editor Kendall Morrison

Gabriel Rotello dan keith williams Andrew Miller Sarah Pettit Michelangelo Signorile

Contributing Editors

Music Calendar

Victoria Starr

Contributing Reporters
David Anger, Edwin Bayrd,
Victoria A. Brownworth, Mark Chesnut, Ben Currie,
Michele DeRanieau, Sandy Dwyer, Masha Gessen,
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M.J. Murphy, Jon Nelley, Cliff O'Neill, Nina Reyes,
John Voelcker, James Waller, Rax Wockner, John Zeh,
Phil Zwickler

Contributing Writers

Bradley Ball, Charles Barber, Alison Bechdel, Jay Blotcher, Greg Boeshans, Peter Bowen, Jennifer Camper, Susie Day, Risa Denenberg, George DeStefano, David Feinberg, Ann Giudici Fattner, Jim Fouratt, Mark Harrington, Larry Kramer, Bob Lederer, Maria Maggenti, Jim Marks, Andrea Natalie, Ray Navarro, Michael Paller, Rachel Pepper, Sydney Pokorny, Veneita Porter, John Preston, Vito Russo, Catherine Saaffeld, Sarah Schulman, Rick Shur, Karl Soehnlein, Daniel Sotomayor, Wickie Stamps, Bruce C. Steele, R. Sugden, Liz Tracey, Jonn Wasser, John Wing, Madam X, Eva Yae Asantewaa

Contributing Photographers
Bill Bytsura, Ira Cohen, Erich Conrad, Darlena/Photographics, Bill Bytsura, Ira Cohen, Erich Conrad, Darlena/Photographics,
Ana De Orbegozo, Desi Del Valle, Mark Finlay-Arthur,
Marc Geller, Marilyn Humphries, Peter LeVassaur,
Andrew Lichtenstein, T.L. Litt, Patsy Lynch, Berbera Meggiani,
Jim Marks, Tom McKitterick, Scott Morgan, Ellen 8. Neipris,
Maria Perez, Roberta Raeburn, Rink,
Lee Snider/Photo Images, Lizzerd Souffle, Ben Thomberry,
Michael Wakefield, Gerri Wells

PRODUCTION

Production Manager Editorial Assistant Production Crew Camera Technician Art Assistant

Joseph D'Andrea James Conrad Tom Blewitt, Jeffrey Fennelly Reul Vega Joseph Guzman

ADVERTISING

Advertising Director Classified Manager

Kit Winter Bruce Keye, Troy Masters Tom Eubanks

NEWSSTAND DEVELOPMENT National Sales Director Grant Lukenbill

BUSINESS

Treasurer Comptroller Assistant to the Publisher Systems Manager Messenger

Lawrence Besile Victoria Starr Erich Conrad Vondora Corzen Roy DeLaMar Gary Stukes

OF COUNSEL Michael E. Carver, Michael Alan Dym, Steven Polakoff

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LETTERS

Myers Opposition

I was very disturbed by the letter in last week's Out-Week from eight people of color who work at GMHC. The writers expressed their dismay at the recent 'attacks' on Woodrow Myers and Tim Sweeney from the members of "the white gay community," in particufor they state, "we are tired of those of you in the white gay community who purport to speak for an AIDS agenda that does not include... human rights, economic stability, access to housing and quality health care...It is apparent...that a collective agenda is obviously not your concern."

As a white member of ACT UP who opposed Woodrow Myers' appointment as health commissioner, I want to express my dismay at the way in which criticism of Myers is equated with working only for the benefit of a privileged group of PWAs (presumably gay, white, middle class) rather than working "to make a difference for all people with AIDS." Many of the loudest voices in ACT UP opposing Woodrow Myers are the same voices who have been calling for national health care, for wider access to clinical trials and experimental treatments for all people (particularly poor people, people of color, women and children), for money for explicit, culturally sensitive community-based AIDS education and for medically appropriate housing for everyone who needs it. As a member of ACT UP who has consistently pushed for an agenda for the group that addresses the needs of all PWAs, and who has seen the majority of the group support this type of agenda, I am

very disturbed by the reckless labelling of Myers' opponents as people fighting for their own interests at the expense of other people and communities affected by AIDS.

The authors of the letter also ask, "Were he (Dr. Myers) not a Black man appointed by a Black mayor would you have felt so compelled to criticize him?" For myself I can answer, unequivocally, yes. I opposed Myers only when I read of his AIDS policies in Indiana, such as contact tracing and quarantine; his lack of interest in securing AIDS funding; his failure even to spend CDC AIDS money already allotted to Indiana; and his suggestion that gay sex establishments (but not straight ones) as well as gay bookstores be closed in order to prevent gays from making contacts that might lead to sex. With that last idea, Myers showed himself to be a homophobe. Perhaps his homophobia stems from ignorance; perhaps not. In either case, it is unacceptable in the health commissloner of New York City. I am extremely glad that Dinkins, a long overdue Black mayor of New York City, is appointing so many people of color to important offices in the city government. But Just as I would oppose a commissioner who displayed racist Ideas and tendencies (whether through Ignorance or not), I opposed this commissioner because of his homo-

Myers has also been sertously criticized on issues such as infant mortality and drug abuse, issues of great concern to communities of color. In fact, in Gary, Indi-



ana—which has the highest population of African-Americans in that state—the infant mortality rate among people of color rose 70 percent during Myers' term in office to a level comparable with that of some Third World countries, a level far above that found in New York City. In other words, AIDS aside, Dr Myers' qualifications for the

job of New York City Health Commissioner are by no means undisputed. The writers from GMHC, however, are silent on these additional criticisms.

Racism is too important an issue to be used in the way the writers from GMHC use it in their letter. One did not have to be racist to oppose the appointment of Myers. Surely a person of color could have been found for the job who didn't display his faults, including homophobla. If that is not true, if the city's charter made the pool of applicants too small, then the charter should be revised. But to brand as racist and callously self-interested every gay white person who opposed Myers' nomination is divisive in a way that sincere and honest criticism never can be.

> David Robinson Hoboken



A New Dialogue, Continued...

In his column, "Toward a New Dialogue on the Health Commissioner," Ray Navarro completely misses the point. The issue is more than contact tracing, it is homophobla. Woody Myers advocated closing all gay bars and bookstores in Indiana, the majority of the cultural and social institutions of most U.S. gay communities. When he was appointed to the Presidential Commission on the HIV Epidemic, Myers was denounced by NGLTF as a notorious homophobe. Would someone described by the NAACP as a notorious racist, or by the ADL as a notorious anti-Semite be appointed to a commissioner level position in the Dinkins administration? Hopefully not, and if ACT UP were to support such a nominee we would be justly condemned, regardless of his position on

any other issues.

Yet, instead of condemnation, Ray offers an apologla for Debra Fraser-Howze. Fraser-Howze deliberately cast the Myers conflict as one between poor people of color and white gays who are not interested in issues that concern anyone but themselves. She told the press that the process was intended to choose *a commissioner of health, not a commissioner of AIDS," and she indicated that she wanted to talk about issues that she claimed no one was discussing, like 'drugs and Infant mortality." Fine, except that It was ACT UP that informed the search committee, at a meeting attended by Fraser-Howze, that infant mortality rates in Indiana had actually risen during Myers' tenure as health commissioner. Funny, that doesn't sound like no one was talking about it.

Fraser-Howze's deliberately misleading statements were playing to the media's divisiveness by separating issues like drugs and infant mortality from AIDS.

According to Ray, Fraser-Howze feels that the concerns of lesblans and gays "were more than adequately taken into account during the (selection) process. Would she say the same of the concerns of people of color if a racist had been appointed over the unanimous objection of every Black member of the search committee? Coalition building is about mutual respect, not about apologizing for someone who just slapped you in the face, Ray. Coalition building is when the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the state legislature refuses to allow sexual orientation to be dropped from the hate crimes bill. Fraser-Howze should have had the

courage to take a similar stand. Coalition building.is when ACT UP marched in Bensonhurst with those protesting the murder of Yusuf Hawkins. Will Debra Fraser-Howze or David Dinkins march with us today on Staten Island when we protest the murder of James Zappalorti? Judging by their conduct so far, I doubt it.

Tom Keane Manhattan

A Kinder, Gentler Myers

On December 6, 1987, Woodrow Myers, Jr. reviewed Randy Shilts' And the Band Played On for the Las Angeles Times Book Review. Though he was identified as indiana's state health commissioner and as having recently resigned as vice chairman of the President's Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic, this review may represent one of his few



statements on AIDS made in a context free of immediate political pressures or publicpolicy consequences.

If only as a footnote to the recent debate in New York, OutWeek readers may find the following excerpts relevant.

"Even though I already know this long story well, even though in my professlonal life I have cared for AIDS patients and fought virtually all the public health policy battles Shilts outlines, I am left with an emptiness."

"I know at least half the people mentioned in this book, and Shilts has interviewed all the right ones."

I have not seen a more accurate description than Shilts' of the budgetary politics on Capitol Hill, the Inexcusable delay and subterfuge that continues to cost us so catastrophically in dollars and in lives... The picture of a White House staff and a president unwilling to listen to their own health experts, unwilling to demonstrate compassion for the citizens the disease has devastated and unwilling to allocate the dollars necessary to avoid offending the moral minority is creatively intertwined with the human stories of men and women willing to give, in some cases until death, of their compassion, intellect, political savvi and leadership."

"Shifts makes it clear that although he has been on the battlefield, he has never been in uniform. Decision making in public health is exceptionally difficult, the more so when the public is afraid and the media are interested. We are a society that expects instant medical gratification; when we can't cure, we deny and we biame."

"Shilts makes his fiscal point effectively: AIDS efforts have indeed been underfunded. But to imply that other efforts were overfunded or less important is simply wrong."

Stuart Byron Los Angeles, CA

Chic-er Than Thou?

I was saddened to read the bitter letter from several GMHC staff members who ifdicule AIDS activists by callling them "so ultra-chic at the moment." The battle to force society to take the epidemic seriously and to find a cure is neither trendy nor insignificant.

Hal Bramson Manhattan

Bellweather of the County

If Ciff O'Neili's concern is with "the reason for which the action was called" (in Atlanta) rather than "the nuances that more often lead to shouting matches among lesbian and gay circles" (Out-Week, Issue 31), why does he engage in an editorial example of the latter?

A stereotyped account of life down south does not reality make.

Perhaps Mr. O'Nelll could do a swift ethnography of the Midwest for your next issue, using his insights and judgments. From such a privileged position—no doubt he believes he could.

Having some familiarity with both Atlanta and New York, I would venture to say



communities.

Alas, as they say down south, Mr. O'Nelli's commentary lost track of its stated purpose "from the get-go." It read like a meta-narrative on the problem rather than the solution.

that can be found in the two

David Knapp Whittier Brooklyn

Cliff O'Neill Responds:

It was neither my intention to question the reason for the Atlanta sodomy demonstration, nor was it to give a stereotyped account of life in the South. If that is what Mr. Whittier has thought was the crux of my plece, I apologize.

Otherwise, I do not feel that I placed myself in a position of being an expert on the South (whatever that means), but felt a need to point out a problem where I saw one: in this case, wellintentioned gay and lesbian activists taking on the appearance of carpetbaggers from the North (whatever that means) telling Georgia lawmakers (in hardly the most effective manner, I felt) how they should run their state.

Ball of Fax?

I have been a devoted reader of OutWeek since its debut. However, it is with great alarm that I have watched your latest controversy unfolding. Your ongoing crusade against an upright and compassionate community leader strikes me as the epitome of divisiveness and cannibalism within our already fragile world.

No, I'm not talking about GMHC. I'm talking about Bradley Ball.

These are trying times for all of us. Mr. Ball has been a voice of reason amidst a cacophony of confusion. His sensible, honest and, above all, sound meditations on life, love and liberty have been inspirations for a community desperately in need

Blurt Out

WAKE UP AND SMELL THIS...

It seems the fuddy-daddies at the New Yorker are still seeing through their glasses darkly. A February 12 quick and dirty review of the 1964 Bond film Goldfinger provides the following insight "Honor Blackman plays the tomboy ringmaster of a flying circus. Connery gets his biggest laugh by lovingly pronouncing her name: 'Pooh-sea,' as in Pussy Galore." Our biggest laugh, actually.

FOR CUTE GIRLS WHO HAVE...

In the Valentine's Day issue of 7 Days, human party-out-of-bounds Robin Byrd makes it clear that only the delectable need apply, "I'll always flirt with a good-looking waiter, even a waitress if she's beautiful enough. I love to eat. To me, food is like an oral orgasm."

-Sarah Pattit



of them. I urge, no, I demand, that the war being waged against Bradley Ball cease and desist.

Otherwise, "M.S.," the next Gossip Zap may be found outside the OutWeek offices.

> G. Brody Manhattan

> > Keep It Up

OutWeek has achieved a stature in its very brief life that is astonishing and seemed nearly impossible a year ago. You've created the gay voice (pun half intended) that has never existed here. The level of professional competence in OutWeek is equal to or exceeds that of the dailles and the Voice.

Your levelheadedness and evenhandedness make it an example, not just an advocate, of liberation. That you regularly run the letters of all stripes of gay is a profound contribution to the concept of gay community. That people who are deeply critical of you are allowed their time is a very provocative demonstration of commitment to tolerance.

The last issues, examining the Myers disaster and the Ritter allegations, really show a consolidation of everything I'm talking about. We might hate to admit it, but I think it's really a significant recognition that the Times referred to OutWeek as a source and described its orientation in clear and fairly politically correct language.

I speak as a reader and as a former managing editor of a New York weekly—I know what a miracle It is just to get the issue out.

> Michael Longacre Manhattan

> > Copped Out

On January 18th, charges stemming from my arrest at Mr. Dinkins' inauguration were reduced from criminal trespass to three counts of disorderly conduct.

It's the police who were disgustingly misbehaved. When I was in custody, the police coerced me to sign blank documents which had spaces for weapons charges. I was fingerprinted, photographed and forms were prepared for the FBI. They said if I didn't slan, I would be put through the system, and that would have amounted to three days In Jall. Under this coercion, and still dizzy from my arrest, I slaned "Martin Robinson, under duress."

It's a privilege to struggle as we do, but it's not easy. I hope that I don't get lost, or burled in the shuffle.

Marty Robinson Brooklyn

Gay Old Party

In the last election for Mayor of the City of New York, gay leaders were falling over themselves to support the Democrat, David Dinkins.

And now, one of Dinkins' most important appointments is that of Dr. Woodrow Myers as health commissioner, a man who favors the use of quarantine when it comes to AIDS.

When will the gay community wake up to the realities of the political process? When you put all of your eggs in one basket, as was the case with Dinkins, you are taken for granted.

Gay voters must work in both political parties—not just one. We will be the first to admit that the Republican Party has a long way to go on gay issues. But the gay voter cannot ignore the Republican Party anymore than the Republican Party can ignore the gay voter.

The Democrats were educated on gay issues in the 70s and 80s, the decade of the 90s must be the period when the Republicans are made aware of our needs and fights.

Our organization is working to serve as a communication link between the gay community and the GOP. We urge all gay voters to support the concept of a two-party strategy on gay rights—not just a one party strategy.

> Brian Brooks Republicans for Individual Freedoms White Plains, NY

> > **Boy Polioi**

Michael Musto seems not only to have had misfortunes with homophobic advertisers snatching additional fame from his fingers. He must also have been unlucky with whoever taught him Greek. No handsome Adonis whose good grammar he'd remember (Not even a cute Out-Week copy editor)?

Just for the record, we ordinary boys and girls are not the hol polloi, as Michael has written. We are unredundantly less: simply hol polloi. It means the many.

But even if the few (hol aristol) have abandoned him, we still love Michael. There are thousands (millions?) of us who won't buy T-shirts from The Gap until he's getting paid to wear one.

Tom Healy Manhattan

Gladdened

I want to say thank you for the "GLAAD Tidings" article in the January 28 issue. Since your magazine is the best source of information for our community, I would really like to see this become a regular feature.

Many, if not most, lesblans and gays I come in contact with have no ided what sort of discrimination and defamation is being hurled at us. By informing us, it raises our consciousness. By providing the addresses of those who are out to get us, it provides us a means for action.

AIDS is one issue facing our community. Homophobia is the central one. We must never let anyone even try to push us back into the closet. This is why GLAAD's goals and principles need your coverage and support.

Carl Anastasio Forest Hills, NY

Wockner Wopper?

OutWeek's Jan. 28 news article on the recent debates in Boston and Chicago over women-only space struck me as curiously blased.

When I checked for the byline, there was none. Was this just a typographical error, or a willful omission of the reporter's name?

If, as I suspect, Rex Wockner submitted this "news" story—one in which he figures quite largely, I might add—perhaps it would have been more responsible to run it as an opinion piece with his name attached than masquerading as news, sans byline.

> Alison Bechdel Minneapolis, MN

Curses! You're right as usual, Allson. We never get away with anything around here.—Ed.

Kramer vs. Bordowitz

This letter is in response to the Kramer vs... column in OutWeek (Issue 31, January 21). In this article, Larry Kramer states that "If it (the AIDS epidemic) were happening to Jews, (it) would be over now."

Larry—as one HIV anti-

body positive Jew to another, what does one's Jewish Identity have to do with AIDS activism?

Certainly, for me, my Jewish identity has been a source of pride. It is among a number of aspects of my subjectivity that establish me as marginal to the supposed "general public."

But, you think that the AIDS activist movement should in some ways parallel the actions of Jewish group. It's obvious from your lack of specificity that you have very little knowledge about recent Jewish history or Zionism.

When you refer to your mythic conception of the Jewish past, do you mean Zionism? It's impossible to analyze what you do mean because your thinking is convoluted and ahistorical.

Do you really think that it is the fault of all the communities affected by AIDS that the epidemic has continued? That is what you imply. Of course, it is not the fault of those of us affected by AIDS.

Rage is not a substitute for intelligence. Gullt does not motivate people. We need fresh, politically savvy, intelligent analysis of an increasingly complex situation. We don't need hollow theoric founded on a false sense of moral superiority.

Gregg Bordowitz Manhattan

Larry Kramer responds:

I have written—at great length—answers to the questions you raise, in my book of essays, Reports from the Holocaust, particularly in the last essay, "Report from the holocaust." The point I am trying to make, again, (and your dragging in "Zionism," "Jewish identity" and "Palestinian self-determination" is a bit much) is that the Jewish community has, since the end of World War II, been

able to become united enough to fight in a united fashion, when necessary, in a way that the gay community has not been able, yet, to do. Yes, the Jews are now (and probably always have been, as most people usually are) solintered over many Issues. But they still have been able to eliminate, pretty much, official anti-Semitism (most specifically through the Anti-Defamation League); they have been able to get an Impressive number of laws enacted that protect them; they have been able to raise huge sums of money for, among other things, their hospitals and universities and medical centers; they have been able to elect many Jewish candidates; they have been able to place their people in positions of power in industry and education and government. From this I am hypoth-

esizing that if and when a true and total devastation like AIDS were to hit the Jewish community, they would be able to organize and mobilize themselves, drawing from all these areas of strength, with exceedingly swift speed and results. I don't think my conclusions are particularly controversial, certainly not to the extent that you make them sound. And I don't think many would disagree with me when I say that the gay community, having a great many similar strengths (Individuals with a lot of money; a lot of smart people, many of them in positions of power; numerous organizations; lots of gay doctors), and coming from a similar position of both ostracism and internalized self-hate, has not been able, yet, to produce anywhere near the same results. I do worry that recently you seem too



drawn up In what you accuse me of: "hollow rhetoric founded on a false sense of superiority." I think you analyze so exceedingly, from a point of view of a history you have read about and not lived; while I am probably guilty of thinking that history has taught the world, and those still living in It, very very little and, for the most part, has been and is being written by historians who are full of shit. (By the way, gullt certainly does motivate people, probably better than anything going: look at the Catholic Church: and Judaism isn't so bad at It either.) Rage may be no substitute for intelligence, but they sure go well together. And I think we can both plead guilty to being intelligent and angry. In closing may I say that I am very fond of you and that It took us both too much time. In

our busy lives, to compose these letters to each other. Don't you think the time could have been much better spent writing them to those who really do stand in our way?

Tim Sweeney Pro and Con, III: The Empire Strikes Back

Thank you for your brilliant coverage of the Woody Myers nightmare. His failure to disperse the AIDS funding at his disposal made his total unsultability for the position clear to any unblased observer. That his contempt for human rights was as profound as It was (shutting down bookstores() should have sealed his disqualificaflon for any sane person with a claim to friendship of the lesblan and gay community of New York.

Tim Sweeney must resign. His role becomes more inexplicable the more the facts

about that decision emerge. After reading letters from the GMHC gang in Tim's defense in this week's issue—a numbing parade of arrogance, Ignorance and Indifference (with a wealth of detail provided by numerous GMHC party-liners that ultimately built up a horrify-Ing picture of bureaucratic hauteur)-It's unlikely than any lesblan or gay person with any self-esteem could donate to them again without a clear change of course on GMHC's part.

It makes me very angry that someone with AIDS might not have a meal delivered because I can no longer contribute to GMHC. It makes me even angrier that the decision of GMHC's leadership to ignore reality and acquiesce to the holocaust being orchestrated by the political establishment in the United States makes this necessary.

Campion Read, M.D. Manhattan

I feel this letter of thanks for your reportage of the Woody Myers affair is appropriate. Your handling of your journalistic responsibilities has been admirable. I am aware, that were it not for you, the truth about Myers would not have come to light: Certainly not in the mainstream press; certainly not from the city government; and certainly not from our "representatives" on the search committee who apparently didn't think who Dr. Myers was mattered. Maybe he didn't mean it. Maybe he would change. Maybe we could educate hlm. It seems to only have become an issue for them when It became one for you.

In the case of Tim Sweeney, it seems he is really a nice, well meaning guy; committed as it were. So was Nixon; so was Oille North, it seems when you consider the big board, that It's OK to sacrifice the human rights of a couple of fags here and there. Who chooses which ones, Mr. Sweeney? You? Or shall !?

Let me tell you something " about GMHC that may have been lost along the way. I was there at the beginning. We used to meet in Phil Lanzarrata and John Lunning's loft. GMHC was formed by a bunch of guys who were faced with an epidemic on one hand, and an uncaring. Inept bureaucracy on the other. We banded together out of a simple need to make it better, and to make it caring. It seems we have managed to create the very monster we formed to combat. How sad.

Through all of this last two weeks, I have been helping yet another friend try to get through. He sat home, with meninitis, for six days awaiting a bed at St. Vincent's. He finally went to the emergency room, where he lay for two more days. The emergency room at St. Vincent's was full of people with AIDS. Maybe Mr. Sweeney would like to go to St. Vincent's and explain to these people why It doesn't matter. Perhaps he would like to explain It to me.

Mark Johnson Manhattan

If it is in fact true that GMHC phoned dozens of AIDS service organizations to "blitz" OutWeek with letters attacking your call for Mr. Sweeney's resignation, then we should at least be thankful that after about eight years they've finally shown some energy. Unfortunately, that energy is directed against their own community, and not against the "real enemy": Those forces in our country that want to see PWAs and the gay and minority communities die. Certainly, anyone who donates to GMHC should ask whether harassing OutWeek is an appropriate

We've Moved!

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use for GMHC's time, money and energy.

Many people in looking at the role that our "leaders" played in getting Dr. Myers appointed are assuming that they operated out of venal motives. One could speculate that what was really going on was ingrained homophobia. We live, after all, in an almost totally homophobic society; even gay people have within them the seeds of that homophobia. When the gay people on the Myers search committee found themselves with the choice of forcefully defending the rights of PWAs and gays, or going along with straight bigotry, they presumably did not have the strength of character to do the former and so instead chose the latter. Sweeney's subsequent comments about the "need" for "restricting" "recalcitrant" PWAs indicates exactly where his (perhaps unconscious) head is at.

Here In New Jersey we already have contact tracing and name reporting; this practice is growing throughout the country. We all know what the next step is going to be; this country has a long history of genocides and crimes (the destruction of the Native American populations, slavery, Jim Crow, Japanese concentration camps). Struggle (not being good victims") is our only defense.

Steve Peduto Jersey City, NJ

This letter is in response to your editorial from January 28, regarding Mayor Dinkins' choice in appointing Dr. Myers as NYC Health Commissioner.

Unity among the lesblan and gay community is imporfant right now. Fighting among ourselves is a betrayal to our movement and it makes us look weak and divided. We find it extremely unfortunate

that you call for the resignaflon of Tim Sweeney.

There is a serious healthcare crisis in this city that has been exacerbated over the last several years by a racist and homophobic city admin-Istration. The Infant mortality rate in this city surpasses that of many poor countries and the average life expectancy of Black males is 40 years. Now the AIDS crisis threatens to bring this healthcare crisis to devastating proportions. It is the poor and oppressed. the Black and Latino communities and lesbians and gay men who face tough battles ahead.

The potential for unity is greater than ever; the time to reach out is now.

John-Peter Daly Trudy Rudvick Lesblan and Gay Focus;, All-Peoples Congress and Peoples Anti-War Mobilization

First of all, I want to find out how Sweeney gained the title of 'representative' of the gay community. Once I find that out I can express my anger to whoever gave him that authority. I am furlous because he asked me and my community to give Myers a chance—a chance which people with AIDS and those concerned about them cannot afford to give.

Doubtiess Sweeney is a very daring man. He dares to suggest that Myers is going to do a good job as the new health commissioner. I know people change, sometimes "for the better," but my friends and I don't have the time to see if Myers will change "for the better."

I have lost too many good friends to AIDS and I don't want to lose anymore. I want the person that will represent me to be one who fights for my rights-not one

who steps on them. I also want a health commissioner that will confront this tragedy with an understanding of the gay community, not one who considers a guarantine to be an option. Remember, FIGHT AIDS, NOT PEOPLE WITH AIDSI

I think we should all exercise the right that we were denied. Let's vote Sweeney and Myers out.

Samir Kalli Manhattan

I thought I'd try and connect some of the events of the past month and offer a few suggestions that I feel could constructively help the AIDS community, the gay community (I'm being politically optimistic here) and start some dialogue that could eventually help everyone in this city committed to fighting AIDS.

First there was St.



How does one inherit a seat in Congress? Go ask that dasterdly duo of Staten Island's little kingdom-Guy and Susan Molinari, monarcha extraordinaire, who've made their empire The Last New York City Bastion of Borga-style Politics.

While deddy Guy went to Washington and voted his repressed, homophobic, murderous conacience-egainst gay rights bills and AIDS funding measures in the House of Representatives—daughter Susan remained home as the Neanderthal hold-out on the New York City Council, voting against the NYC gay rights bill.

Now Guy has become king ...er...Borough President, Princess Susan-e tacky bleached blonde with dark roots, too much make-up and unflattering suits from the Staten Island Mall-is running for his seat in Congress. Guy recently forgot to mention anti-gay bies in his statement against the S.I. Zappelorti murder. He even forgot to attend the funeral. And Susan, well...oopal...she forgot to even release a statement at all. Himmin...those crazy forgetful kids.

Wall, remember this you mangy swamp rats: The world is changing, and you can't keep cowering in your little corner forever. If events won't move you, then we will ourselves. From your thrones atop the Almighty Garbage Dump, we'll tip you into the goopy sludge of the Arthur Kill. That oughts do wonders for that wretched hair, Susani

Patrick's. Then there was Woodrow Myers and Tim Sweeney. Then there was Larry Kramer's article on the lack of leadership in the gay, er...AIDS...er gay movement (that) was excellent and thought-provoking. It made me look at the 'leaders' in the community, the leaders that condemned the St. Pat's march, the leaders of GMHC and then, logically, the leaders of ACT UP. Ocopsi My mistake. There are no leaders of ACT UP. In trying to be so politically correct, they forswore any type of elected officialthat would smack of establishment. Where is the responsibility? I think it would be in the best interest of the er...community for ACT UP to hold elections. Who's doing all the complaining? Who is not being invited to be on Mayor Dinkins' search committee?

But I digress, ACT UP wants Tim Sweeney's resignation. Act-,er...OutWeek wants Tim Sweeney's resignation. Yoo-hoo, ladies and gents, at least he stuck his neck out. He wasn't elected, though, was he? He had to work his way up. You know, have qualifications, all that kind of stuff. Well, leaders don't necessarily have to be both qualified and elected (e.g., Jesse Jackson), and yes, some elected officials are anything but leaders, but ACT UP could begin and at least ELECT SOMEBODY TO SOMETHING.

Then, "we" can blame him or her. He or she can be easily accessible to the media and even to OUR mayor. And it needn't be just one person. You could have four elected slots and call it "collective leadership" (Is that better for everybody's politically correct consciousness?). How about "The Gang of Four?" Above all, this would lend credibility

and responsibility to a group that deserves to be heard despite (sometimes) itself.

There is a teeny tiny problem with all this, I know. Because along with qualifications and elections there usually is power. And ACT UP's power is in the Community Center main room on Monday nights, and in each and every committee every other night and out in the streets. What kind of power would this elected official have?

Well, Larry Kramer begat GMHC, and GMHC begat Tim Sweeney. What lovechild or children could bear fruit from Larry's loins through ACT UP? It's an idea. It's a challenge.

Oh, and OutWeek, without going so far as calling your magazine a house organ of ACT UP, at least you are allowing some of the best minds in ACT UP, like Mark Harrington and Jim Elgo, to be read and Judged by your readers (not that all good minds want to be leaders, you understand). You are doing your part to encourage dialogue and at the same time let your readers meet the thinkers and doers in the community. Hopefully some of these people can and will become leaders. Of the entire community? No. But a responsible leader goes a long way to Improve the image of all of us. ALL OF US.

John Sefakls Manhattan

Thank you for the Important activist role OutWeek continues to play in our community. Engaged journalism is exactly what is needed to inform and provoke us in these increasingly homophobic times.

I too spent a week in the streets around the Myers mess (and yes my work, relationship and friendships suffered...but not terminally).

Mathilde Krim and her

staff must bear the full burden of responsibility for electing Myers to the AmFAR board and for nominating him as health commissioner to the search committee.

Why AmFAR would have such a person with his professional record on their board when his actual practice has been, concretely, a disservice to people of color and to PWAs is a question that must be answered.

OutWeek is correct in your very harsh critique of both Tom Stoddard (who did not think that matter important enough to return from a vacation in Paris) and Tim Sweeney for their role in supporting Mathilde Krim's selection without input from either the gay and lesbian political community or the AIDS activist community (ACT UP) either here in NYC or in Indiana.

But please remember that prior to Tim Sweeney's appointment to the staff of Gay Men's Health Crisis, GMHC had practically no outreach to the NDU community, no outreach to the non-gay AIDS groups and behaved in a very arrogant "we-want-all-the-funding" manner.

Sweeney has done an excellent job in both sensitizing internally the organization to racism, sexism, access and hiring practices and client service delivery. He has also gone about the task of coalition building with non-gay AIDS groups, promoted GMHC's sharing of resources and information with those groups and learning from the experience of their outreach.

But I cannot support a call for the firing of the person most of us who have put in time fighting AIDS since 1982 believe to be the most progressive and anti-racist white gay man at GMHC.

OutWeek needs to continue to speak the truth and realize that our leaders need critical support rather than an "off-with-his/her-head" attitude.

> Jim Fouratt Manhattan

Regarding a few letters to the editor in *OutWeek* 2/4/90:

As to Fraser Gill's closing remark, "I look forward to the day when our 'gay leaders' rise to the moral level of British politicians." May I please direct him to your cover story with Derek Jarman (2/4/90) who states, regarding homophobia in Great Britain, "What Section 28 did was give carte blanche to repress gay work..." Section 28 is legislation which bans public funds from promoting homosexuality.

As to Name Withheld's (Manhattan) remark, "Know what they're doing now? Calling up 35 heads of the 35 biggest groups, asking them to write to support Sweeney. Pathetic, eh?" And as to Name Withheld's (Brooklyn) remark, "If It's really true that GMHC asked other groups to write letters in support of Tim Sweeney, they should go to hell." May I please direct them both to your GLAAD Tid-Ings (2/4/90) where the address of Star magazine appears following the closing sentences, "This is all the more reason to praise the editors at the Star for their sensible advice to parents with gay or lesblan children. Write to them at...* This request to write encourages OutWeek readers to write to someone to support a particular view. in a similar way, phone calls were used to raily written support for Mr. Sweeney. Are Messrs. Names Withheld hurling "pathetic" and "go to hell" at Henry Yeager?

Also, regarding Mr. Lochevsky's letter, I almost forgot to mention that although it may still be outside his etiquette some do, still, stoop to conquer.

Robert Simpson Manhattan

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Hate Crimes Bill Passes Senate By Landslide

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON-The U.S. Senate Feb. 8 passed the Hate Crimes Statistics Act by a landslide 92-4 margin, overcoming an anti-gay amendment from Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) by a similarly lopsided vote.

The bill (S. 419), which passed the House by an overwhelming margin last year, would direct the U.S. Department of Justice to collect statistics on violent crimes motivated by bias based on race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. The measure now goes on to the White House for the signature of President George Bush, who has already given it his support.

TWO RIGHTS DIDN'T MAKE A WRONG Sen. Orrin Hatch (I.) and Sen. Jesse Helms

phobic skinhead bigots, violent racists, anti-Semites and other perpetrators of hate crimes," she said.

"When myths stir hatred and fear, then great harm can be done," stated Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.), the lead sponsor of the bill, "Hitler is an illustration of that, and history is loaded with other examples of unprincipled people, troubled by hates and fears, who sometimes lead others to hate and fear. The ultimate result of hatred and fear is violence."

Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), the bill's lead Republican sponsor described a series of anti-gay and other hate-motivated crimes, stating, "I think these incidents are disgusting



photos: Patsy Lynch

"Today the U.S. Senate sent a strong signal to the bigots and bashers in our country that violence against lesbians and gay men is as intolerable as violence against racial, religious and ethnic minorities," said Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"This bill is the beginning of the slippery slope downward for homoand outrageous. I think every member of the Senate thinks these incidents against homosexuals are disgusting and outrageous."

The vote in the Senate came after lengthy debate on two amendments which sought to clarify the bill's stance on homosexuality. By agreement, the bill's lead sponsors, Sens. Simon and Hatch, would only introduce one amendment to that effect and Helms, another.

As Helms repeatedly insisted that the bill would manifest the "imprimatur" of the Senate on homosexuality, sodomy law repeal, lesbian and gay rights and the "teaching" of homosexuality in public schools, both Hatch and Simon sought to preempt the North Carolina Republican with their own four-part amendment.

After being delayed for a last minute re-write when lesbian and gay lobbyists expressed concern with the original Hatch/Simon amendment's generous use of the term "traditional family life," it was adapted to state instead that the government should support "American family life" and emphasize that the bill does not "promote or encourage" homosexual behavior.

Surprising many who expected Helms to oppose the Hatch/Simon measure as preempting his own, Helms quickly declared the proposal a "nice statement" and asked to cosponsor it himself. It went on to pass 96-0.

Helms, however, did not back off from introducing his own amendment, a four-part, non-binding "sense of the Senate" rider. His amendment, the chief reason for the bill's being delayed in the Senate for almost a year, declared the "homosexual movement" a threat to the American family, suggested that state sodomy laws be enforced, opposed any and all gay and lesbian anti-discrimination laws and stated that school programs should not describe homosexuality as an "acceptable alternative lifestyle."

After Helms spoke singularly in support of his amendment, mostly by again describing his rider as a campaign year referendum on homosexuals and sodomy law repeal, he went

See HATE CRIMES on page 28

Ritter Steps Down From Covenant House

by Gabriel Rotello

NEW YORK-The Rev. Bruce Ritter was forced to step down as the president of Covenant House last Tuesday by the governing board of the Franciscan Order of Catholic Priests. His removal is described as a temporary leave of absence pending the completion of a Franciscan investigation into charges of sexual abuse. The charges stem from accusations by at least four men that Father Ritter initiated sexual relationships with them when they were clients of Covenant House, the country's largest shelter for runaway youths. Two of the men were under the legal age of consent when the alleged sexual acts took place.

Father Ritter founded Covenant House and has been its president since its inception in 1968, building it into an organization with an \$87 million annual budget. While highly praised by national advocates for runaway youths, he has been consistently criticized by gay leaders as an unrelenting homophobe whose organization frequently abused gay and lesbian teens. AIDS advocates have also criticized Ritter for opposing the teaching of safer sex practices to teenagers under his charge. AIDS is spreading rapidly among runaway teens, who frequently engage in prostitution.

But Ritter is also given high marks for his programs for people with AIDS. And for the past few years he had allowed the Hetrick-Martin Institute, a private agency for gay and lesbian youth, to conduct a program sensitizing Covenant House workers to gays issues.

New Investigations Begin

Ritter's troubles began last fall when Kevin Kite, a 25-year-old client, accused Ritter of initiating a sexual relationship with him. In interviews with the New York Post and OutWeek, Kite maintained that Ritter lured him into a sexual affair in return for an apartment, gifts and a college scholarship. Ritter denied the charges.

Last month the Village Voice published excerpts from an interview with John P. Melican, 33, of Seattle, who also alleged that Ritter had a sexual relationship with him. The Melican interview had been conducted many years prior to Kite's accusations.

This week a third man, Darryl Bassile, 31, of Ithaca, also went public with charges that Ritter had sex with him when Bassile was 14 years old. Those charges were said to be particularly damaging because Bassile had discussed the alleged sexual episodes privately with his therapist before the current controversy broke. The therapist is reported to have detailed notes on the relationship.

The Post is now reporting accusations from a fourth man, Paul Johnson, 33, who claims a six-year sexual relationship with Ritter, and WABC-TV is reporting that seven others are making similar charges.

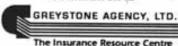
The ongoing controversy has ignited three separate investigations. The longest, by Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morganthau, is focusing on whether financial laws were broken in Ritter's relationship with Kite, and whether Covenant House broke the law in providing Kite with a false identity. The false identity they

See RITTER on page 29

"FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS. IT'S GOING TO BE A BUMPY NIGHT."

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Dinkins, Pols Scramble to Condemn Gay Slaying

Jackson Sends Telegram; Gays Post Reward; 400 Protest on S.I.



MOSAIC ON THE MEND?—Dinkins at Zappalorti memorial

by Michelangelo Signorile

STATEN ISLAND—What was criticized at the beginning of last week by many in the gay and lesbian community as a sluggish response by politicians to the anti-gay bias murder here of 44-year-old James Zappalorti turned into a full-fledged outcry from city and national leaders, who reacted vehemently to the murder by the week's end.

Under pressure from gay activists

and in light of strong pro-gay responses from other city officials, and from the Reverend Jesse Jackson, Mayor David Dinkins visited Zappalorti's elderly parents, Mary and Michael, at their home on Staten Island Feb 2. Dinkins did not attend the victim's funeral a week prior. Just moments before Dinkins' arrival, the family was read, over the telephone, a telegram of condolences from Jackson, which had arrived for them in care of the Gay

Photo: Ben Thornberry

and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project.

Hours later, a protest, endorsed by 25 lesbian and gay groups city-wide, took place outside Staten Island Borough Hall. The demonstration was aimed at State Senator John Marchi, who has opposed anti-bias legislation, and at Staten Island Borough President Guy Molinari who did not mention anti-gay bias in his response to the murder. Neither attended Zappalorti's funeral.

That same day, the New York State Gay and Lesbian Lobby in Albany joined the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights and other local New York City groups in calling on Governor Mario Cuomo to appoint a special prosecutor, citing that Staten Island District Attorney William Murphy has shown his opposition to antigay bias legislation in the past.

On the following Sunday, Dinkins attended and gave a rousing speech at an interdenominatinal religious service on Staten Island, at which various politicians and religious, civil rights and gay leaders were present.

On Tuesday of last week, City Council President Andrew Stein held a press conference with councilmembers, members of the Zappalorti family and gay leaders, to condemn the brutal slaying and to announce that he and Councilmember Miriam Friedlander had introduced a resolution before the council urging state law-makers to end opposition to the antibias bill stalled in the State Senate.

And on Thursday of last week Matt Foreman, executive director of the New York City Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project, announced that the agency was posting a \$3,000 reward for information leading to the whereabouts of 26-year-old Philip Sarlo, one of the two alleged murderers of Zappalorti who is still being sought in the brutal multiple stabbing which took place on the Arthur Kill beach across the street from Zappalorti's home in the Charleston section of the island on January 22. The other suspect, 20-year-old Michael Taylor, is in custody and has told police that he killed the Navy Vietnam veteran "because he was gay."

Dinkins Comforts Family

Dinkins incurred the wrath of lesbian and gay leaders when he chose not to attend Zappalorti's funeral two weeks ago. On the Wednesday following the funeral, Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger held a joint press conference with activists, condemning the murder and announcing the protest on Staten Island.

According to sources inside city hall, it was the pressure of gay and lesbian leaders, as well as the actions of Messinger, that moved Dinkins to visit the Zappalortis.

"Each of us in our city needs to better understand other people," Dinkins said at the Zappalorti home, according the the Daily News. "There are some very fine people who happen to be gay."

Protest at Borough Hall

Just hours after Dinkins left the

island, some 400 demonstrators gathered in a freezing drizzle Friday evening in front of Staten Island Borough Hall, where they protested the slaying and called for passage of the anti-bias bill.

Commuters coming off the ferry looked on in amazement at the public display of political protest, rarely seen in staunchly conservative Staten Island.

"Hatred's Bitter Harvest"

The following is the majority of the text of the speech given by Mayor David Dinkins at the memorial service for James Zappalorti Feb. 4.

I come before you today not only as Mayor of the City of New York but as a father, a grandfather and a human being who has too often witnessed hatred's bitter harvest.

As we gazed in shock at the horrifying television image of James Zappalorti's lifeless body on the beach he so loved, how many of us took a deep breath and whispered to ourselves, "There but for fortune go I?"

When one law-abiding citizen cannot walk down a street regardless of his or her sexual preference or religion or skin color, all law-abiding citizens suffer. I call once again upon the State Senate to pass the bias-related violence bill, including its protections of gay men and lesbians. I am proud of the fact that the Black and Puerto Rican caucus of the State Senate refused to allow sexual preference to be removed from that bill. Unless all are safe, none are safe.

Yesterday, it was a gay man; tomorrow, will it be an Asian-American? Yesterday it was a Jew; tomorrow, will it be a Latino? Yesterday, it was an African-American; tomorrow, will it be a Catholic Priest?

More than two decades ago, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. declared that "the next thing we must be concerned about if we are to have peace on earth and good will toward men is the nonviolent affirmation of the sacredness of all human life. Every man is somebody because he is a child of God."

James Zappalorti was a child of God, too. A gay man and Vietnam veteran with emotional disabilities, James yet took joy in life and found strength to impart some of that joy to his family and friends. He taught all a lesson of love.

The foundation of his strength was a deep and abiding faith in God—the God who, when planting the hish and varied garden of humankind, had seen fit to include blossoms of white and blossoms of color; flowers that stand proudly alone and flowers that lean on their neighbors; petals whose form is perfect and petals whose perfection is perhaps unrealized. God chose to include the gentle beauty of James Zappalorti in the wondrous splendor of His creation. But now that flower has been torn from the earth, and our garden is sadly incomplete.

And so we gather here, people of many faiths, to mourn a loss we all share—Jew or Catholic, black or white, male or female, gay or straight, disabled or temporarily able. We have lost another one of God's children.

Let us take a lesson from James Zappalorti, however, and meet this adversity with our own faith—faith in God and faith in humankind and faith that someday we will live in a world free of hatred and violence. Faith not only nurtured James Zappalorti—it continues to sustain his family today.

When I met on Friday with his parents, Mary and James, his brother Michael and his sister Margaret, I was deeply moved and inspired by their extraordinary strength and courage in the face of the terrible loss of their child and brother. Let us as a city take heart from their example, for we, too, have lost a child and brother. Let us join hands with the Zappalorti family and offer them condolences as well as solace. May God rest the soul of James Zappalorti in peace; and may God bless and keep all of you.

"They have every right to be out here. The murder was terrible," said Leslie Azzarelli as she waited for a local bus near the ferry dock in St. George. "They are fighting for what is right...I hope this bill gets passed, because it's so necessary."

But not everyone was sympathetic. One resident, who wouldn't give OutWeek his name, said, "All these gays Meanwhile, Tara Quillinan, director of the New York State Lesbian and Gay Lobby in Albany, was urging Governor Cuomo to appoint a special prosecutor. "This crime, like the Howard Beach incident, calls for such an appointment," she said.

Cuomo's Commission on Selection of Prosecutors opened up a review of the case in response. And Cuomo

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DEATH # SILENCE—Protesters at S.I. Borough Hall

photo: Ben Thomberry

can protest, sure. I mean, nobody likes a murder. But why can't they do it in the Village? We don't want them out here. Besides, we don't go marching and yelling where they live."

Among the Islanders who came to show their support for the demonstrators were Zappalorti's brother Robert, and his children Kelley, 25, and Robert Jr., 23.

"I knew he was gay. I loved him and I accepted him for being himself," Kelly told *OutWeek*. "There are some very cruel people out there, but Jimmy was not like that. I'm here to support these people. That was not the first time people had harassed Jimmy. If the bias bill were passed, my uncle might be here today." spokeswoman Karen Polk confirmed that the governor's office is reviewing the case. But, according to the Staten Island Advance, "Cuomo officials familiar with the case said it is unlikely the governor will take the case out of [Staten Island District Attorney William] Murphy's hands—particularly given Murphy's opposition. The governor in the past has expressed his reluctance to supersede locally elected prosecutors."

Memorial Service Packed

Last Sunday Mayor Dinkins received a standing ovation for a speech he gave at a crowded interdenominational memorial service held at the Bethel United Methodist Church in the Tottenville section of Staten Island. The service was organized by the Staten Island Human Rights Council. Also speaking at the service, which was in sharp contrast to the Roman Catholic service held one week before, were: Rabbi David A. Katz, Temple Israel Reform Congregation; Reverend Willard Nichols, United Methodist Church; Elizabeth Holtzman, New York City Comptroller; Carolyn Goodman, mother of slain civil rights worker Andrew Goodman; Peter Arthur of Dignity/Staten Island; Robert Kirk, president of Lambda Associates of Staten Island; Tom Naples, President, Staten Island Alliance for the Mentally Ill; Margaret Marlow, sister of James Zappalorti; Reverend Juanita Green, Shiloh African Methodist Episcopal Church; Reverend Terry Troia, Brighton Heights Reformed Church and Lt. Commander Bernard R. Wilson, a chaplain of the United States Navy, Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger and City Councilmember Susan Molinari of Staten Island also attended the service.

All of the speakers spoke about Zappalorti's homosexuality and spoke out in favor of the bias bill.

"We must make people understand that homophobia is just as terrible as any other form of bigotry," said Liz Holtzman. "That means getting the State Legislature to pass the anti-bias bill. That means getting federal legislation outlawing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. That means making the campaign against AIDS really serious and well-funded. That means overturning the Hardwick case. That means teaching and preaching against bigotry everywhere. That means bringing those responsible for this murder to justice."

Molinari on Gay Rights

After the service, Councilmember Susan Molinari, daughter of Staten Island Borough President Guy Molinari, told OutWeek, "I'm not here as a politician. I'm here only to see the family and offer my condolences." Molinari, who is running for her father's former congressional seat in an upcoming special election, had voted against the New York City gay rights bill. "We let that debate get out of hand," she said. "Looking

back now, I realize there was no problem." But she firmly said she would not vote for a federal gay rights bill if she become a congressperson. "We don't need it," she claimed. About the bias bill, Molinari, clearly ill-at-ease, said, "I guess if people want it, and if it will protect gays and lesbians and women, I guess, then, I have no real problem with it."

Asked why her father, the Staten Island borough president, did not attend the service in light of the fact that the Manhattan borough president, as well as the mayor, were present, Molinari exclaimed, "My mother is sick! She is not well! That is why my father gave up his congressional seat. And that is why he did not attend the funeral as well as this service!"

The elder Molinari had said a week earlier that the reason he did not attend the murder victim's funeral was because "I don't go to funerals of people I don't personally know."

Reward Posted

And on Thursday, Matt Foreman of the Anti-Violence Project said that the funds his agency would offer as a reward for fugitive murder suspect Philip Sarlo would be raised to \$5,000 over the weekend.

It is the opinion of many in the gay and lesbian community that the reason Sarlo has not been caught is that there is a lack of commitment from the police department. But unlike every other borough, Staten Island does not have its own homocide division. Only two detectives, sent from Manhattan, have been put on the case.

Sources inside the police department confirm that Sarlo is thought to still be on Staten Island. They say he has communicated with family and friends and has even been seen at a nightclub.

Before offering the Violence Project's funds, Foreman repeatedly asked the mayor's office if they would post a reward, as has been done in many cases in the past. But, as *OutWeek* went to press, city hall had not yet responded.

"The mayor should have posted a reward long ago," said Foreman. "We've given up waiting for a response—every day that passes increases the chances that the murderer will get further out of reach."

—David Kirby contributed to this article. ▼



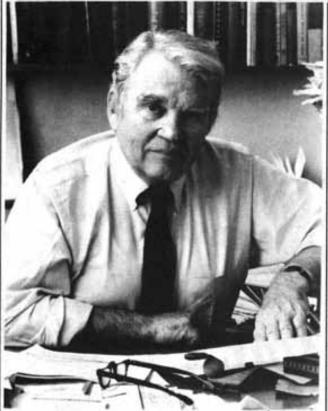
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CBS Suspends Andy Rooney After Racist and **Anti-Gay Remarks**



-Andy Rooney

by Gabriel Rotello

NEW YORK - CBS News has suspended Andy Rooney without pay for three months after racist remarks he allegedly made to the Advocate were widely reported in the media. The move came after CBS appeared to resist calls by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation to suspend the veteran 60 Minutes commentator for previously publishing and broadcasting anti-gay remarks.

The statement that immediately preceded Rooney's suspension appeared in an interview with reporter Chris Bull in the Feb. 27 issue of the Advocate. Bull quotes Rooney as saying, "...blacks have watered down their genes because the less intelligent ones are the ones who have the most children. They drop out of school early, do drugs, and get pregnant." Rooney denies making the statements.

In announcing the suspension, CBS News Division President David Burke said, "CBS News cannot tolerate such remarks or anything that approximates such comments, since they in no way reflect the views of this organization."

Gay leaders were quick to point out that Rooney had recently made several offensive and homophobic remarks in print and on the air which did not elicit media attention or cost Rooney his job.

"The timing of the suspension is very bad," said Karin Schwartz of GLAAD, the gay media watch-dog group which had met with CBS to protest Rooney's homophobic statements. "This sends a message that CBS responded decisively only after allegations of racism. Our issue is that homophobia alone should have been sufficient."

However, a source at CBS News and others told OutWeek that Rooney was about to be suspended because of complaints about his homophobia. According to these sources, Burke was wavering on whether to suspend or fire Rooney after a highly inflammatory letter Rooney wrote to the Advocate was published in the magazine. In the letter, Rooney "apologized" to the gay community in a way that is widely considered more offensive to gays than his original comments. The CBS source told OutWeek that GLAAD's efforts had been decisive in forcing CBS's hand.

Gays Offended By Comments

Rooney's current troubles began in October, when he wrote in his syndicated column, "I feel the same about homosexuals as I do about cigarette smokers. I wouldn't want to spend much time in a small room with one, but they don't bother me otherwise."

Then, in a Dec. 20 TV special, he said that "...the ills that kill are self-induced, such as too much alcohol, too much food, drugs, homosexual unions."

When both comments elicited calls from the gay community for Rooney's dismissal he sent an "apology" to the Advocate in which he further inflamed the situation.

"Do I find the practice of one man introducing his penis into the anus of another repugnant? I do. Is it ethically or morally wrong and abnormal behavior? It seems so to me..." He called homosexuality a "behavioral aberration caused by some kind of trauma or caused when a male is

born with an abnormal number of female genes, or vice versa." And he continued, "I think of gay men as victims..."

Following the letter, he agreed to an interview with the Advocate's New York reporter, Chris Bull, to clarify his views. It was in that interview that Rooney allegedly made the remarks about Blacks. Despite his suspension, Rooney continues to deny that he is a racist.

"I did not say, nor would I ever have thought, that Blacks have watered down their genes," he said in an interview in the New York Times. "It's a know-nothing statement which I abhor."

Dinkins' Statement Welcomed

In remarks that were warmly welcomed by gay and lesbian leaders, Mayor David Dinkins said, "In my mind,

Mr. Rooney's unwillingness to disavow his anti-gay remarks taints the credibility of his denial of racist comments about African-Americans. I find it difficult to believe that an individual who is apparently willing to embrace prejudice toward one group would not be capable of making prejudical comments about another. Before he is reinstated, CBS News ought to be certain it will not be embarrassed by Mr. Rooney in the future."

GLAAD's Schwartz praised the mayor, saying that, "Dinkins addressed our points beautifully." But GLAAD was critical of mainstream press coverage of the controversy. Schwartz pointed out that many newspapers dismissed the homophobic element of the story, focusing exclusively on Rooney's racial remarks.

"The media is very upfront about the racial stuff," Schwartz said. "They openly refer to Rooney's 'racist comments'. But they're very careful to say 'comments that the gay community felt were offensive'. They fail to say that the comments were indeed offensive."

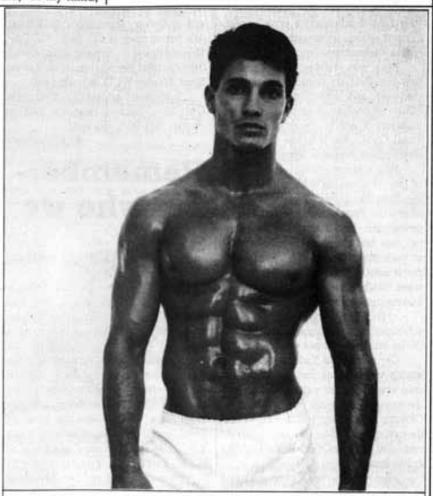
Schwartz asserted that "the media still thinks there's a legitimate debate on whether gays are abnormal. They think that to report on us in a fair fashion is the same as advocating homosexuality."

Prominent gay people of color agreed that a different standard seemed to apply in the press between Rooney's racist and his homophobic comments. Kendall Thompson, a law professor and member of ACT UP's Majority Action Committee said, "There's a sense that

homophobic sentiment is the last outpost of acceptable bigotry." Referring to two recent scandals in which public figures were forced to resign for making racist remarks, he continued, "It wouldn't be far-fetched to say that if Jimmy the Greek or Jackie Mason had made offensive remarks about gays, there wouldn't have been a brouhaha and the powers that be wouldn't have been pressured to take action."

Phil Reed, a Black gay man who is an elected Democratic district leader on the Upper West Side, said "we should be outraged" by the media's coverage of the Rooney story. But referring to the 1987 gay and lesbian march on Washington, he said, "The mainstream media ignored

See ROONEY on page 28



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Out Takes

Pleas for help for gay Turks

Amnesty International has sent out an "urgent action" alert following the arrest of Turkey's most prominent gay activist.

Ibrahim Eren, leader of the Turkish Radical Green Party, was taken into custody Dec. 7 following a press conference at which transvestites protested regular mistreatment by police.

Eren was charged with violating Law No. 2911 on demonstrations and assembly, and with "the illegal distribution of leaflets in public places," a violation of Article 536 of the Turkish Penal Code. He is being held at the Bayrampasa Prison in Istanbul.

Eren's arrest comes on the heels of previous run-ins with police resulting from the publication of the "Gay Liberation Page" in the Green Party's newspaper, Yesil Baris. The newspaper has been repeatedly confiscated in past months and Eren and Yesil Baris editor Abdul Kadir Denir Ozu were finally charged with "spreading homosexual information."

A trial on those charges was scheduled last November, but details of the outcome are not yet known.

Gay activism in Turkey, particularly among transvestites, has come into its own only in recent years. In Istanbul, the cross-dressers are concentrated in Changir in the Beyoglu district, where they complain of frequent police harassment and of ill-treatment at the Beyoglu Police Station.

The Green Party led hunger strikes by gays and transvestites in 1986 to protest bar raids where police dragged gays into the street, beat them, shaved their heads and forced them to be tested for sexually transmitted diseases.

Amnesty International has called for telexes, faxes, telegrams, express letters and airmail letters to the Turkish Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice, appealing for Eren's immediate and unconditional release as a prisoner of conscience.

Write: Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, Office of the Prime Minister, Basbakanlik, Ankara, Turkey; and Minister of Justice, Mahmut Oltan Sungurlu, Adalet Bakanligi, Ankara, Turkey.

The fax for both officials is 011-90-42-30-88-96. Telex information is as follows: 44061/44062/44063 BBMT, 0607 42293, 42099 6056 TR, 42875 66 K TR.

Copies should be sent to Turkey's diplomatic representatives in this country and to Amnesty International in London. Al's fax number is 011-44-1- 956-1167. The address is: Amnesty International, International Secretariat, One Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ, England.

Yesil Baris' address is: Lamartine Cad. 23-6, Taksim, Istanbul; Turkey. Phone: 011-90-1-150-7602.

-Rex Wockner

Remembering who we are

BOSTON—The National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays has declared the last Sunday in February—February 25 this year—to be a National Day of Remembrance for Black lesbians and gay men. Instituted for the first time last year to memorialize the life of legendary writer/activist Joseph Beam, the day celebrates and honors the lives of Black gays and lesbians who have died. Beam died in December of 1988.

"We decided to use [Beam's] death as a catalyst to declare our history and our loved ones," explained Angela Bowen, co-chair of NCBLG's board of directors. "We kind of do it in the spirit of calling up our ancestors."

Ultimately, the group would like to see the National Day of Remembrance incorporated into nationwide celebrations of Black History Month each February. "We need to make that crossover," Bowen said.

NCBLG invites groups and individuals to celebrate the Day of Remembrance in any manner, except as a mechanism for raising money, and to forward information about the event that was held to: NCBLG, PO Box 19248, Washington, D.C., 20036. —Nina Reyes

New Russian word for "gay"

Unbeknowst to authorities, the Soviet Union's first-ever international conference on homosexuality is set for May 27-30 at the University of Tallinn in the Baltic republic of Estonia.

Gay historian Teet Veispak and lesbian historian L. Kotter, co-organizers of the gathering, hope to attract researchers and journalists worldwide to discuss "Sexual Minorities and Society: Changing Attitudes Toward Homosexuality in the 20th Century."

According to David Murphy, the Stockholm-based information secretariat for the International Lesbian and Gay Association, Veispak and Kotter "wonder how the local authorities are going to react once they get wind of the conference."

Homosexual acts in the Soviet Union can lead to five years of forced labor in Siberia, although there have been recent reports that the sodomy law will be deleted from the new penal code now being drafted.

In a conversation with Murphy, Veispak said most Estonian gays remain closeted for fear of possible arrest but he also noted that "a very loosely organized group of young activist-types may eventually form a gay organization in Tallinn." According to Swedish journalist Dodo Parikas, who travels to Tallinn frequently, Estonian gays presently meet only through private contacts.

The news from Estonia comes on the heels of a letter to ILGA from "Moscow Friends," a group of gays and lesbians who say they are now meeting on a regular basis. ILGA responded to the letter but has not yet heard back from the group.

Other new information from Moscow, primarily gathered by a Danish exchange group, included reports that "goluboi" which means "light blue," has become the Russian slang expression for "gay." Some Russian gays believe the usage emerged from the 1960s film *The Amphibious Man* in which the obviously gay protagonist wore a light blue costume.

The Danes also report that despite glasnost and perestroika, Moscow gays are still frequently arrested by KGB agents and held in "abominable circumstances" until they identify other homosexuals. Some of the arrestees are sent to psychiatric hospitals and given drugs to decrease their sex drive, according to the newspaper PAN.

Finally, Moscow gays told the Danes that condoms have not been available in Moscow pharmacies for more than a year.

For information on the Estonian conference, write: T.A. Ajalooinstituut, Attn: T. Veispak/L. Kotter, Rüütli 28, SU-200001 Tallinn, Estonia, USSR.

-Rex Wockner

I do. Do you?

NEW YORK—On February 15, noted gay and lesbian activists will gather at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center to tackle a subject that some activists see as potentially divisive in the lesbian and gay community: gay marriage. Entitled: "Legalizing Gay Marriage: Should We Get Hitched?" the forum will begin at 7 pm and will offer attendees the opportunity to question panelists and make statements on the subject.

"I got the idea in October last year when there was a series of articles all at once on the issue in the popular press—The New York Times, Time magazine and others," said attorney Mitchell Nisonoff, who organized the forum. Nisonoff also pointed to Denmark's passage last year of a law that allows gay men and lesbians to marry their same-sex partners, and to the increased emphasis on legislation and court decisions that recognize and give legal rights to relationships between lesbians and gay men. "It's also something that really has not been discussed in an open way." Nisonoff stated.

Panelists will include: Paula Ettlebrick and Tom Stoddard, both of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, who argued opposing sides of the debate in a recent issue of Out/Look, the national gay and lesbian quarterly; Veneita Porter, former director of AIDS Discrimination Issues at the New York State Division of Human Rights: Bill Rubenstein, staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, who successfully argued before the New York State Court of Appeals that lesbian and gay couples should qualify as "family" for the purpose of the New York City rent control regulations; and Maxine Wolfe, long-time feminist activist and member of New York's AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power.

The forum, sponsored jointly by SAGE, Lambda and the Bar Associa-

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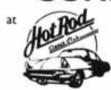
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Out Takes

tion for Human Rights of Greater New York, will be moderated by Nisonoff, who serves on the board of SAGE and chairs the legislation committee of the BAHRGNY.—Nina Reyes

NYS domestic partners bill

ALBANY—State Senator Franz Leichter and Assemblymember William Passanante introduced a bill on Jan. 16 to create a legally recognized status of domestic partnership in New York.

If enacted, the bill would allow domestic partners to establish a formal, legal relationship by filing a form with the county clerk of the county where they reside.

The bill would amend the state's Human Rights Law to provide that it would be "an unlawful discriminatory practice" for the state or its political subdivisions (counties, cities, towns, authorities, etc.) to "discriminate against domestic partnerships in any way." The bill explains that wherever "marital status" is used as a factor in "any decision, policy or practice" domestic partners must be given the same status.

Domestic partnerships can be formed provided that both partners are 18 years or older, are competent to make contracts, declare that they are each other's sole domestic partner, reside with each other and agree to take responsibility for each other's welfare. People who could not lawfully marry each other if they were of the opposite sex cannot become domestic partners. To achieve legal recognition, the partners would have to sign a form under oath setting forth their eligibility. County clerks could require a fee of not more than \$50 to file the form.

A new form would be required to terminate domestic partnership. No member of a terminated partnership could establish a new partnership until at least six months had passed. In addition to forbidding discrimination against domestic partnerships, the bill would amend the insurance law to allow insurance companies to treat domestic partners as family members for purposes of eligibility for insurance.

The bill has been referred to the Judiciary Committee for consideration. The sponsors have been meeting with community representatives under the umbrella of the Family Diversity Coalition, which includes representatives from the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Bar Association for Human Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project and Disabled in Action. These groups and others are continuing to meet with New York City councilmembers to discuss municipal partnership legislation, which is seen as having a better chance of passage at this time than the state legislation.

Co-sponsors of the state bill include Senators Galiber, Jenkins, Mendez, Ohrenstein, Paterson and Smith; Assemblymembers Nadler, Sullivan, Brennan, Clark, Daniels, Diaz, Feldman, Gottfried, Greene, Sanders and Seabrook. —Arthur S. Leonard

Gay guidelines for judges

BOSTON—The National Lesbian and Gay Law Association is claiming a victory in its campaign to convince the American Bar Association to include anti-discrimination protections for lesbian and gay men in its model code of judicial conduct. The NLGLA announced January 16 that the ABA had agreed to include a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation in one portion of the draft of the revised code.

The new anti-discrimination clause will be added to the section of the code that states that "a judge shall not, in the performance of judicial duties, by words of conduct manifest bias or prejudice." This provision will apply to statements such as those made by Dallas Judge Jack Hampton, who told reporters that he had given convicted murderers lighter-than-usual sentences because their victims were gay. When Hampton made those statements in 1988, the ABA had no explicit policy on anti-gay discrimination.

However, according to NLGLA co-chair Katherine Triantafillou, the organization failed to bring about a change in another portion of the code, which deals with judges' behavior outside the courthouse. Among actions proscribed because they may create the "appearance of impropriety" is membership in private clubs that discriminate against women and ethnic and racial minorities. The NLGLA's recommendation that judges should not join clubs that discriminate against lesbians and gay men created a whirlwind of controversy, and the drafting committee ultimately rejected the change, said Triantafillou.

The code draft must be ratified by the ABA House of Delegates at the association's convention in Los Angeles next month.

While the ABA's power to discipline judges is limited, explained Triantafillou, the code "is a very persuasive document."

-Masha Gessen

N.J. PWAs get support

HOBOKEN, New Jersey—While New York's lesbians and gay men have organized AIDS services targeted particularly toward gay men almost since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, across the river in New Jersey, Hyacinth Foundation, New Jersey's largest AIDS service and education organization, has only recently established a support group specifically for gay people with AIDS or HIV infection.

In the Garden State, where gay and bisexual men constitute approximately 30 percent of the state's AIDS caseload, according to Nancy Scerbo, a spokesperson for Hyacinth, "the caseload in New Jersey in terms of the gay population is really fragmented across the state." Gay men, lesbians and bisexuals who live in counties that border Manhattan, Scerbo says, have traditionally looked to New York's AIDS service organizations for information and support.

Scerbo cautions, however, that New York AIDS service organizations were established to serve New Yorkers, and that when New Jersey residents become ill, they need services in their own state. Hyacinth is a fullservice, statewide agency with a \$1 million budget, 28 full-time employees and over 500 volunteers.

Although the new support group-which will meet Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 at the Parish House of All Saints Episcopal Church, 707 Washington Street, in Hoboken-is the first support group to approach AIDS issues from a gay perspective and gay issues from a perspective informed by AIDS, Scerbo says that some of the support groups formed by Hyacinth "have been sort of de facto gay groups." She characterizes this new group as a kind of outreach to New Jersey's gay people with AIDS, a "getting-toknow-you" effort, to acquaint people with the services that Hyacinth Foundation and the Garden State to provide to people with AIDS.

For more information on the gay support group in Hoboken, call the toll-free Hyacinth Hotline: 1-800-433-0254. —Keith Miller

New group for K.C. rights

KANSAS CITY, Missouri—Local activists want to make Kansas City the first jurisdiction in Missouri to outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation. The newly formed Human Rights Ordinance Project plans to introduce an amendment to the city's civil rights law next

month. In addition to adding sexual orientation to the list of categories protected by the ordinance, the amendment will also state explicitly that people with HIV infection are protected under the disability provision of the law.

The votes of seven city councilors will be required to pass the amendment. According to HROP organizers, several city councilors have already expressed support for the effort, and one has endorsed the amendment. Twenty-six organizations, including the city Human Rela-

tions Department and the National Lawyers Guild have also endorsed the HROP.

The Kansas City amendment will contain a broad definition of sexual orientation, which will extend the law's protections not only to homosexuals, bisexuals and heterosexuals, but also to transsexuals and transvestites. Most of the country's 46 cities and 13 counties that already prohibit sexual-orientation discrimination have more limited ordinances, which do not apply to transsexuals and transvestites. —Masha Gessen ▼



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Boston Journal

Undercover



UNDERCOVER DYKE Photo: Nina Reves

by Masha Gessen

hen I signed up for the Truth Squad, I knew nothing about the outfit-except that it was all part of the War.

The War was declared the day after the Massachusetts gay and lesbian civil rights bill was signed into law, because an organization calling itself Citizens for Family First-phobes, in War lingoimmediately filed a petition to put the law on this year's ballot. To do this, they had to gather almost 30,000 signatures before the end of January.

So I joined the Truth Squad, which was described to me as an entity that would somehow interfere with the 'phobes' attempts to gather signatures. Although this mission description was hardly thrilling, the refreshingly nonalphabet-soupy name conjured up images of strength, determination, victory. I visualized scores of tastefully uniformed homosexuals marching through suburban shopping malls eight abreast. picking up converts as we went along, leaving deflated 'phobes in our wake.

The name was helpful, too, in counteracting the feeling that what our side was trying to do in the War was, in spite of all our righteousness, not entirely honorable. There are few battle cries more compelling than "Take it to the people"-and that was the call of the opposition.

I recognized the reason we were trying to block the 'phobes from taking it to the people-who, at the last count, supported gay rights two to one. We feared that the 'phobes would work their family-values magic, which has resulted in a defeat for gay rights wherever these have been put up for a vote. Still, a voice in my head kept questioning where their rights ended and mine began. So the name Truth Squad was reassuring because it connoted a clear hierarchy where I was a foot soldier, but someone else was responsible.

"Wear polyester-or college drag," instructed one of the organizers over the phone. "You see, they threw our truth squad out of the mall, so we need people who can go there and pretend to be interested, and engage the 'phobes in conversation for as long as possible. We need people who can keep their cool. We can't have anyone who would be confrontational. So I thought of you."

There was a crack in the moral high ground, and I was falling in, slipping away from reality, away from my beliefs-the belief that I should not misrepresent myself, the belief that I couldn't if tried, the belief that suburban shopping malls are hazardous to my health, the belief that avoiding any and all contact with heterosexuals is healthy.

"I'll be there as soon as I can," I promised.

Contrary to what I expected, phobes did not jump out at me as soon as I entered the mall. In fact, looking around, I could not pick out the 'phobes. So I walked to the center of the mall and looked around for gullible phobes. A young man with closelycropped red hair approached, shining a buck-toothed smile.

"Hi, my name is Peter."

He could have been a straight man trying to pick me up, or he could have been a 'phobe. It was a close call. I smiled.

"And I'm just walking through the mall right now, talking to people and inviting people-adults-to-*

He could have been inviting me to an orgy or a petition signing.

"A Bible-study group."

I knew that I had left my identity in Boston. And I knew that there were people in this world who did not recognize homosexuality when it was staring them in the face. But I was not ready to face someone who could not see that I was Jewish. Unless, of course, that someone was a 'phobe-in which case I would simply have to swallow it.

"Because, when you look around today, how many people do you see really living Christianity?"

"I'm Jewish, so I don't look at things that way."

"Well, that's OK. There is a man in our Bible-study group who is Jewish. He says it was quite a transition for him to find Christianity. Because it's pretty different, eh?"

"Yeah."

"So, do you think you might be interested?"

"I'll have to talk it over with my husband.*

"Is your husband Jewish too?"

"Yes."

"I wouldn't want him to be jealous. He'd be jealous if he saw me talking to vou, eh?

"Insanely."

Walking away from the center of the mall, I finally spotted the 'phobes. They were a man and a woman in their 50s, standing at a table marked "Citizens for Family First-Repeal the 'Gay-Rights' Law" and "Registered Voters Only." The man was giving a speech to an elderly woman; his bleached-blond partner looked bored and slightly disoriented. I walked up to the table and looked at her questioningly.

"Would you like to sign the petition?"

"What petition?" I asked, staring at the signs on the table.

"To let the people decide on the

gay rights law."

"What law?"

"Here, read this." She thrust at me two sheets with lots of small type above which somebody had scribbled: "Read—Gay Agenda." The 16-point list below, photocopied from Out of the Closet: Voices of Gay Liberation, described some basic objectives of the lesbian and gay rights movement: the abolition of the bourgeois nuclear family, the abolition of age-of-consent laws, the abolition of the existing judicial system, the abolition of the penal system, the abolition of the police, the establishment of a revolutionary socialist society and a couple of other things.

"They want special rights," the woman explained.

"What rights?" I persisted.

"Special privileges."

"What privileges?"

"Wouldn't we like to know," sighed the woman, clearly exasperated. "Here, he'll explain to you." She grabbed the man by the polyblend sleeve of his jacket and pulled until he was facing me. "The lady would like to know about this gay rights law," she barked.

"They want special privileges," the man offered.

"What privileges?"

"We're all protected by the Constitution," he began. "They want special protections. It's like if you said that you wanted a law that said that nobody can discriminate against you because you're a housewife."

That did it. This assignment had already stomped all over my sexual orientation, and insulted my ethnic identity—but now this man was making presumptions about my ambitions and career choices. If I and people like me were truly invisible to him, how could he be so passionate about denying us our rights?

Apparently registering a look of horror on my face, the man rushed into a speech: "They-want-to-influence-our-children-they -want-to-legalize-abortion-my-wife-couldn't-conceive-we-adopted-she-conceived-that-very-month-that's-the-way-they-want-abortion-on-demand-two-gay-women-in-our-neighborhood-are-raising-three-boys-what-kind-of-influence-are-they-there-is-a-six-and-a-half-year-wait-to-adopt-it's-another-ax-blow-to-the-tree-of-the-American-family—"

"But what does the law say?" I asked earnestly.

He looked at me as though he were about to accuse me of dealing a fatal ax blow to the American family.

"I'll sign!" I took the pen handed me and wrote "Radclyffe," then paused to consider what would happen if he recognized the name and knew I was a fraud. I decided to muddy the waters and wrote, "Sackville-West."

The commander called that evening to give the next day's assign-

"I can't say that I really enjoyed that today," I confessed.

"Really? What was wrong?" She sounded so innocent—as though she wouldn't think twice about going to a shopping mall to shoot the breeze with some 'phobes.

"It was creepy," I whined, knowing as I uttered it that this kind of excuse would get me nowhere. I tried to add substance to my complaint. I tried to explain that I felt slimy, dishonest, invisible, scared of being found out and scared of being mistaken for someone I was not—that I felt all the things I have tried so hard not to feel since I came out. I tried to articulate that if it was all about our dignity, then these tactics weren't worth it.

None of it came out quite like it should have.

"So, it was icky," she summed up.
"Yes," I sighed. "I'll be there as
soon as I can."

This time I found the table immediately. There were at least a dozen young 'phobes there, flanked by members of our Truth Squad. Avoiding eye contact with the 'sexuals, I headed for the table."

"Masha!" It came from my left when I was about ten feet from the table. "I didn't know you were coming."

I walked over to the Truth Squadder who clearly hadn't been briefed. "You blew my cover," I hissed.

"Your cover? You?" she laughed. "You look like a dyke."

"I did it yesterday," I retorted.

"Ha!"

"And got invited to a Bible study group, to boot."

"Well, you look like you should be redeemed."

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ROONEY from page 21

750,000 people on the Mall in D.C., so I'm hardly surprised about this."

When asked if the presence of Blacks in the workplace helped to pressure the press to take racism more seriously than homophobia, he said, "Yes, and it's all the more reason for us to come out of the closet. I'm curious to know where CBS thinks they'd be without the gay folks on their staff."

CBS Reticent About Homophobia

And CBS itself was strangely reticient on the connection between homophobia and Rooney's suspension. Roy Brunett, a spokesperson for the news division, said, "For any person to make an association that Rooney's suspension was due soley to his racist remarks is clearly unwarranted," and he pointed to Burke's statements about Rooney's "remarks" and "comments" as proof that the single racial statement was

not the only issue. But CBS would openly state that the homophobic statements played a role in Rooney's suspension, and refused to comment further.

A power struggle nevertheless has reportedly broken out at CBS over the Rooney scandal. Major players such as Walter Cronkite and former news chief Dick Salant are strongly defending Rooney against charges of racism, maintaining that he was misquoted. They are silent on the issue of homophobia. Their defense has reportedly persuaded Burke to merely suspend Rooney, rather than fire him.

GLAAD, according to its Executive Director Craig Davidson, is extending an olive branch to Rooney. They are inviting him to address their first annual media awards dinner this spring, hoping he will use the opportunity to repudiate his homophobic comments.

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HATE CRIMES from page 14

on to lose by a vote of 19-77.

The floor debate was marked most visibly by Helms' repeated attacks on the bill, and on the "homosexual-lesbian" community, as Helms called it.

"We don't need this legislation which won't do anything," stated Helms. "This bill won't do any good."

Calling the legislation "deceptive," Helms described the bill as the "flagship of the homosexual-lesbian agenda" quoting three times from the New York Native, which he called the "official organ" of the "homosexual-lesbian" movement. Helms cited gay opinion that the Hate Crimes bill is the first step towards passage of the federal gay and lesbian rights law.

Helms also described in passionate detail the December demonstration where "thousands of militant homosexuals," as he put it, "slithered" into New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral and called the lack of national media coverage of the event a "conspiracy of silence" to censor negative news stories about homosexuals.

Neither did Helms spare gay and lesbian groups of direct attack, mentioning the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force half a dozen times and blasting the Human Rights Campaign Fund and New York City's Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. Likewise, individual gay activists—NGLTF's Kevin Berrill, Boston's Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders' Kevin Cathcart and the Anti-Violence Project's former director David Wertheimer—were also derided by the Tarheel Conservative.

Leading the anti-Helms challenge was Hatch, who opposed Helms repeatedly and with seeming great conviction. While acknowledging that he is not in favor of lesbian and gay civil rights, in impassioned tones he stated, "I know I can agree with them [lesbian and gay rights activists] on one thing, and they're right on it...They deserve to be treated like human beings."

Voting against the bill were Senators William Armstrong (R-CO), Gordon Humphrey (R-NH), Trent Loti (R-MS) and Jesse Helms.

The bill is now headed for a congressional conference committee, where differences with the House version, which passed last June 368 to 47, will be reconciled. ▼

RITTER from page 15

provided was that of Timothy Warner, a child who died in 1980.

The second investigation, which suspended Ritter, is being conducted by the Franciscan Order. Although Covenant House is independent of the Franciscans, Ritter takes directives from the head of the Franciscans, Rev. Conall McHugh.

The third investigation has been launched by the State Attorney General, Robert Abrams, and is looking into Covenant House's finances. Abrams has jurisdiction over charitable organizations in New York.

Gay Leaders React

The announcement that Ritter was stepping down elicited generally favorable responses from gay leaders in New York. Many expressed concern, however, that the media would use the scandal to support the concept that gays are child molesters and shouldn't be allowed to work with children.

Joyce Hunter of the Hetrick-Martin Institute declined to characterize Ritter as a homophobe, but she maintained that he long had a problem with professionalism. "He did things that would have gotten him fired from any other agency," she said, referring to his reputation for favoritism and personal involvement with youthful clients. Hunter maintained that Ritter "crossed the boundary frequently."

Craig Davidson, the executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation said, "I support his removal." But Davidson maintained that "it will probably lead to scrutiny that's misplaced. The issue here is pedophilia, not homosexualtiy. And pedophilia is a much bigger problem with straights than with gays."

When asked what effect Ritter's problems are likely to have on gay and lesbian youth, some of whom have personal experiences with Covenant House, Joyce Hunter said, "We emphasize to the kids that Ritter's problems have much more to do with professional ethics than homosexuality. If the accusations are true, they would be equally serious if the kids involved were male or female."

Ritter has long been an outspoken opponent of gay rights. He has supported the anti-gay and anti-safer sex stands taken by Cardinal O'Connor. GLAAD's Davidson maintained that "the real problem is Ritter's life being screwed up by homophobia, particularly internalized homophobia. He's a victim of much larger social forces that affected many people his age."

Covenant House announced Wednesday that former New York City Schools Chancellor Frank Macchiarola had taken over as acting president. Macchiarola, who is a member of the board of Covenant House, said in a press conference that he would like his stay as president to be "as short as possible." But he declined to answer a question as to whether Ritter would ever return to the agency.

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New York City Department of Health

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In Our Own Hands

Lesbians in the AIDS Crisis

In Our Own Hands is a monthly column about women's health.

by Zoe Leonard

Note: The following is excerpted from the lesbian chapter of Women, AIDS and Activism, by ACT UP/New York's Women and AIDS Handbook Group, forthcoming this spring from South End Press.

esbians are not included in most discussion on HIV infection. But lesbians are infected by AIDS in many ways. There are lesbians who have AIDS. Woman to woman sexual transmission has been documented. We are confronted with the increased homophobia and bias-related violence that is occurring in response to the AIDS crisis. Many lesbians are dedicated and outspoken AIDS activists. Some of us have watched close gay male friends die.

The idea that we are not at risk for HIV infection is based on a number of deep-rooted misconceptions about the way dykes live and how we have sex. As an example, Dr. Charles Schable of the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, recently told Visibilities magazine that it isn't necessary to study lesbians because "lesbians don't have much sex". In fact, lesbians who engage in risky behavior are as much at risk for HIV infection as anyone else.

Lesbians are not a homogenous or an isolated community: there are lesbians who shoot drugs and share needles, who have been married, who are in prison, who have children, who have sex for money, who get raped. Lesbians are at risk through alternative (artificial) insemination. And many lesbians have sex with men.

Lesbians Have Sex: Assessing Our Risk

According to a Kinsey study, 45 percent of the lesbians surveyed reported having sex with a man since 1980.² Among women IV drug users, as many as 17 percent report having sex with other women in one study.³ Some lesbians have sex with gay or bisexual men, and have reported very high risk activities such as unprotected anal intercourse.

Women have sex with women that can involve the exchange of bodily fluids and pass infections such as chlamydia, trichomonas and yeast. HIV has been found in healthy and infected vaginal secretions and in menstrual blood. Many lesbians have oral/vaginal sex (cunnilingus). We may use our fingers which have have small cuts or abrasions; we share sex toys, or have sex that draws blood.

One 1983 study comparing the sex habits of lesbians and straight women showed that the lesbians were far more sexually active, and most had been with 15 or more partners. In 1979, Pat Califia studied 286 lesbians and reported that one in four had experienced S&M, half preferred nonmonogamy and 60 percent had either engaged in group sex or wanted to.4

Lack of Information and Research on Woman to Woman Transmission

There are 100 women with AIDS in the CDC's records who report having had sex with other women.5 However, the CDC compiles its data from the reports of physicians. Most women are assumed to be straight and are not ever asked about having sex with other women. Further, the CDC lists women's risks for exposure to HIV "hierarchically." A lesbian IVDU would only be counted as an IVDU. Men's categories are now taking into account multiple exposure risks (i.e. "gay male IVDU"). Without multiple exposure categories for women, it is impossible to accurately track our exposure risks.

A 1986 case involved an IVDU

and her female lover. Both had AIDS, and all routes of transmission except sexual contact between the two women were ruled out for the sexual partner.6 A study was conducted at the Community Health Project in New York of 31 HIV positive lesbians. Two of the women in the study had no risk factor other than sex with HIV positive women.7 Other cases have been reported in medical journals. In addition, a case was reported of HIV being transmitted from a woman to a man through cunnilingus.8 Although the case involves a heterosexual couple, the implications for lesbians are clear.

Another factor complicating the collection of data on lesbians with HIV infection is the high chance of women being misdiagnosed, or diagnosed with AIDS very late in their illness. Doctors often fail to consider HIV infection in women, and may believe that lesbians are "low risk." Women's symptoms are often overlooked by both clients and providers.

Transmission of HIV by lesbian sex cannot be ruled out. Educational materials and safer sex guidelines must include information pertinent to lesbians. While it is true that presently the number of lesbians with AIDS is small, we need to learn from the history of this epidemic, and work towards prevention in the lesbian community.

Having Sex Safely

Because lesbians are repeatedly told that we are not at risk, very few dykes have adopted safe sex techniques. Rather than panicking or seeking false reassurances, we need to learn how to assess risk, how to practice safe sex and how to talk about our sexual practices.

Some lesbians and bi women decide to practice safer sex all the time. Totally safe sex means never allowing blood or vaginal secretions to enter your body. If this is your option, use latex gloves to touch her cunt, and dental dams (6" x 6" squares of latex, or a cut-open condom) for oral sex. Don't share sex toys, or cover them with latex. These practices are especially important if one of you has her period or a vaginal infection, as HIV has been found in both of these fluids.

Other women feel that the possibility of woman to woman transmission is small, and that safer sex is only necessary if there is a history of IV drug use, sex with a man or a blood transfusion. This presupposes, of course, that you feel comfortable enough to ask these questions, and can get an honest answer. It presumes that the sexual history of every sexual contact of both women is known.

Still other women in monogamous relationships want to engage in "risky" behaviors, and choose to use the HIV antibody test to decide what's "safe." The antibody test is only accurate from six to at least 18 months after your last possible exposure to HIV. A negative test is unreliable if not enough time has elapsed since your last risky activity. It's also important to remember that woman may have a hard time being honest about behaviors such as sex with men and IV drug use that are often not accepted within the lesbian community.

Dykes in the AIDS Movement

Lesbians with HIV infection, like straight women, may have a hard time fitting into the "AIDS" community. Many women feel awkward going to places where they are the only female client. It is hard for women PWAs to find adequate medical care, especially gynecological care. Many of the support groups and services are provided basically for and by gay men, so women can be more isolated than men.

Lesbian PWAs are also faced with homophobia and discrimination. Painful and humiliating problems arise around visitation rights, property rights, family rejection, verbal or physical abuse from individuals and institutions; on the street, at work or even in the hospital.

See LESBIANS AND AIDS on page 35



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A monthly column by Larry Kramer

Anger Is Not Enough

e were on a roll. We defeated the krappy Koch. No more Wretched Ronnie and Nasty Nancy. The welcome mat in Washington finally had our name on it. We plucked new drugs from the sky. We were put on important national committees. The media liked us for a change. We were compared to Greenpeace, the anti-war and anti-nuke movements, the freedom uprisings in Eastern Europe.

"We" are the newly militant gays: brave soldiers on the front line, fighting for our lives.

Suddenly things have turned shitty. New research and experimental drug trials have almost ground to a halt. (Is Dr. Fauci powerless; has he lost control at NIAID?) We know what has to be researched, but it isn't researched. We know what new drugs must be tested, but we can't get them tested. We know which new statistical methods for testing experimental drugs and what new tests for viral efficacy will produce results in six months instead of three years, but we can't get these shorter systems approved and started.

And now there are all these petty putrid articles and books about the myth of heterosexual AIDS. And my Blue Cross is going up from \$2,381.40 to \$3,072.00 a year.

So what do we do about all of this? We have a local bloodbath. Our own sold us out so we turned on them, like starving buzzards circling over the only available flesh. Neither side was all right and neither side was all wrong, yet we all forgot each other.

Dr. Krim found us an exceedingly questionable health commissioner; GMHC's Tim Sweeney, as poor a negotiator as Krim is a politician, compromised too much; Lambda's Tom Stoddard refused to dirty his hands and took a trip to Paris; Ron Johnson had to face the tormenting and unanswerable existential question each Black gay faces: am I Black or am I gay? I don't know where Marie Wilson was.

When we lost our fight and the city won Myers, we went crazy. We also forgot the years of good, solid public service of some of the accused, as we tried to squeeze the pus out of our sores.

The one person we didn't yell at must be laughing.

The mayor we gave our love to has, so far, turned out to be an ungrateful bastard and a deceitful prick. I've even considered that he has INTENTIONALLY and very craftily turned us against each other. The Times called him "decisive." I call him a wimp. Because of his wimpiness in making a decision about the Myers Mess for some two weeks, he poured on the gasoline and we blew each other up. We fell into his trap, gnawing at each other like the wounded warriors we are.

And Dinkins has done nothing to offer succor. To hear him referred to as the "great healer" is a sick joke.

To think we might have to deal with four more years of being treated so shabbily by yet another mayor makes me want to puke.

* * * * *

I've recently talked to Dr. Robert Gallo and Dr. Samuel Broder, two of the most important doctors dealing with AIDS in the government and both at the National Cancer Institute. Gallo is a mess. The Chicago Tribune excoriation of his entire lifetime by Pulitzerprize winning journalist, John Crewdson, followed by a National Enquirertype guillotining by Randy Shilts in the
San Francisco Chronicle, has just
about done him in. All he can think of
is clearing his name. Broder confirmed this. "Bob is being tied up in
knots. I can't talk science with him.
His mind is distracted and he can't
focus on it. Enough is enough already.
We can't treat Bob any better or worse
than anybody else. He's not productive. We've got to get rid of non-productive scientists. Productivity's the
name of the game."

Jeffery Braff, the new head at GMHC, has defended Tim Sweeney. "I will not fire him," Braff has said most emphatically on several occasions, even going so far as to elicit letters of affection and support of Sweeney from the numerous AIDS and social service organizations that GMHC does business with.

For all his craziness, for all the scientific chicanery that probably went on in his lab, Gallo still knows more about AIDS than almost anyone around. He may even be essential. But he's been rendered useless. In a way, we killed him. A lot of us went after him including Randy, the Native, Charles Ortleb, Katie Leishman, Spin Magazine; I've gone after him myself.

When Gabriel Rotello asked me what I thought of calling for Tim Sweeney's head, I answered that I thought it was too extreme. If we're going to ask for the resignation of everyone we disagree with, no one will be around for very long.

In our headlong rush to chop off heads, we never ask the question: who else is there to do Tim's work? To do Gallo's work?

GMHC is experiencing difficulties: volunteers attrition is at an alltime high, forcing them to advertise for volunteers for the first time in their history (the pool of volunteers now gravitates toward ACT UP); also, for the first time, contributions and grants are dwindling and the fiscal reserves they've enjoyed in the past are dwindling, while the cost of their programs continue to grow. This Sweeney business has not helped.

But who else is there to do GMHC's work?

Broder delivered a monologue on what he says is the biggest stumbling block to an AIDS cure. (Fauci gave me a similar answer in 1987.) The answer is this: Lack of scientists. Particularly the young ones, who do the hard work, willing to put in all-nighters seven days a week. "We have an incredibly small pool of people able and willing to do the work," Broder said. "People are certainly making a decision not to go into science. People are even leaving science. Med students are now saddled with such incredible debts they can't afford it. We have to have a commitment to have more people go into it. One or two good young scientists can make a big difference in a place like ours."

Two or three years. New drugs will be out in two or three years. New tests will provide results in two or three years. New programs will be functioning in two or three years. New labs will be open in two or three years. Vaccines will be ready in two or three years. Combination therapies will control AIDS for a natural lifetime in two or three years.

We're still waiting for all of it. For ten years.

And it makes us very, very angry. And we take this anger out on each other.

We ask for Tim Sweeney's resignation and we destroy Robert Gallo and we boycott the Native and we exile Andy Humm and Tom Stoddard and we carry our petty internal squabbling. Who are we hurting here? Not our real enemies.

We throw stones at the easy targets and we are afraid of the real ones. George Bush is our enemy. Mario Cuomo is our enemy. Daniel Patrick Moynihan is our enemy. Alphonse

D'Amato is our enemy. Jesse Helms is our enemy. William Dannemeyer is our enemy. Perhaps now-and it saddens me to say it so early- David Dinkins may be our enemy. How many of these have we gone after? Really gone after?

Don't get me wrong. I think Gallo did awful things. And I think Tim made a few bad mistakes. And I think the Native can be a rag. And I think Andy should shut up about the Church action.

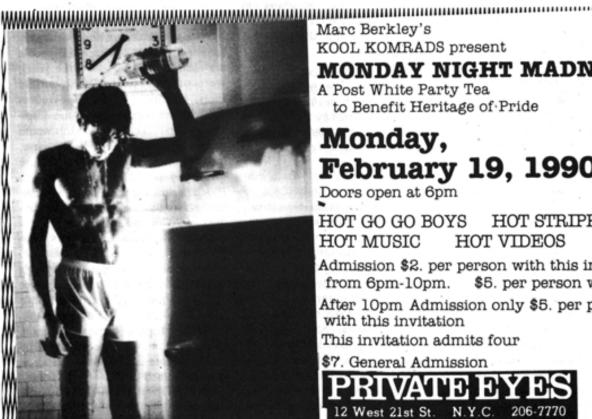
But it takes an awful lot of energy to scream and yell and fight. And after ten years, we only have so much energy. Our troops are dying off fast. We've really got to be more sensible and prioritize.

So let's go after our real enemies.

And ANGER at our real enemies is not enough. Anger is only the first attack, the beginning. Stage One.

NEGOTIATION is Stage Two. Sending in the experts. To negotiate with the other side. To tell them what we want. To tell them what we are

See KRAMER on page 37



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Political Science

Eating Where They...

by Mark Harrington

Nearly all of the AIDS Clinical Trial Groups (ACTG) principal investigators bave some industrial consultative arrangements. Such consultations facilitate, rather than impede, proper conduct of ACTG trials by serving as a channel for communication and concerns for both industry and government.

—Martin Hirsch, M.D., Principal Investigator, Harvard ACTU Chair, AIDS Program Advisory Committee (APAC) Member, AIDS Clinical Drug Development Committee (ACDDC), ACTG Executive Committee, ACTG Primary Infection Committee.¹

he U.S. biomedical research establishment maintains its dominance in this country by harnessing the ambition of researcher physicians into the massive bureaucratic funding mechanism of the National Institutes of Health. During the last four years, the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), has become virtually a wholly owned subsidiary of the Burroughs-Wellcome Co., (makers of AZT, Acyclovir, Pyrimethamine, Leucovorin and alpha interferon) with several smaller franchises for other giant pharmaceuticals like Bristol-Myers (ddI, d4T) and Hoffman-LaRoche (ddC, alpha interferon ...). A total of 9,206 people have enrolled in ACTG trials in its first three years. Over 80 percent of them were in AZT trials-though AZT was approved over two-and-one-half years ago!

A genteel form of intellectual and moral corruption is the driving force determining which drugs the ACTG tests and how. Examine the committees on which Dr. Hirsch, for example, sits. In December Hirsch testified against proposed NIH rules which would have required the disclosure, and in some

cases the abandonment, of industrial fees given to researchers receiving federal funds. As chairman of the APAC, Hirsch is supposed to help oversee NIAID's AIDS Program. As a member of the ACDDC he helps select which drugs are most worthy of testing. As a member of the ACTG Executive Committee he helps determine which protocols are "priority." As a member of the Primary Infection Committee he tries to push for drugs having to do with HIV specifically (as opposed to opportunistic infections, cancers or neurological complications). As a principal investigator (PI) he tries to make sure as many of his own studies, or those of his friends, are funded and prioritized. And as a consultant for pharmaceuticals he has his hand in the pockets of some of those whose drugs he's ruling on. All in all, a decidedly messy situation.

In December, the reseachers did their best to scuttle the conflict-of-interest guidelines. The APAC issued a report saying:

In some circumstances the privacy or other interests of investigators, key employees, consultants (etc.) would be jeopardized by the breaches of confidentiality called for by this provision of the proposed guidelines.²

Certainly disclosure would embarrass those who are subsidized by both public and private sectors. What if sponsors were paying investigators who were supposed to maintain objectivity when they review protocols for approval and for priority status? The very existence of these "consultative arrangements" casts doubt upon the pose of objectivity with which these fee-receiving PIs set ACTG research priorities. Their continuing concealment jeopardizes the integrity of the entire publicly-funded AIDS research effort.

Ever attuned to the cries of corporate interests, the federal government rescinded the proposed rules.

Let us examine the implications for the ACTG of Hirsch's admission that "nearly all of the ACTG principal investigators have some industrial consultative arrangements." What could this possibly mean? Are the bundreds of millions doled out annually by NIAID not enough for these PIs to do their job? Do they need funds from "consultative arrangements" from companies whose drugs they're testing to complete the trials? Do the fees go into the PIs' pockets directly, or do they subsidies laboratories, assistants, travel, publication fees, etc.? Do the fees affect in any way decisions made by the ACTG about which agents to test?

Do members of the AIDS Clinical Drug Development Committee (ACDDC), which awards drugs "high", "medium", "low" priority or "not recommended for testing at this time" also engage in "consultative arrangements" with private sponsors?

No wonder people from small companies like Imreg, Integra, TNI, etc. encounter such difficulty getting their drugs into trials! No wonder Burroughs-Wellcome has such an easy time! It's those consultative arrangements they have with the ACTG PIs - the people we thought, for the last three years, were only subsidized with public funds. Publicly-funded researchers should strive to avoid even the suspicion of conflicts of interest. This would make it unwise to accept, as they have, money from corporate sponsors whose drugs they are testing through NIAID. Hirsch claimed that these fees "facilitate, rather than impede, proper conduct of ACTG trials by serving as a channel for communication." Is there not enough communication between industry and government through ACTG channels? Do PIs need to get paid just to pick up the phone? Before another round of ACTG grants are awarded, the public deserves to learn how much more the beneficiaries of public largesse are receiving from private sponsors.

Notes

1. AIDS Update 2:24, 12.25.89, p. 2.

2. ibid., p. 3.

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LESBIANS AND AIDS from page 31

Although we are understudied, and virtually invisible to the public, dykes have embraced the AIDS activist movement. Lesbians have a long history of being politically active, and we have brought tremendous energy to the movement. There are some feminists, in fact, who feel that we have devoted too much energy to AIDS, that it draws energy away from lesbian issues. But AIDS is a lesbian issue.

By bringing our agenda to the AIDS movement, we broaden it. We address the need for universal health care, and for responsible sex education and informed decision making. We stand for choice and control over our own bodies.

Lesbians are perhaps most at risk through our denial of risk. Our active involvement is crucial to our survival.

More research into lesbian sex.

More research into women's body fluids.

Condom companies must produce better latex barriers for women.

Notes

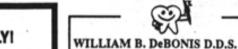
- Lee Chiaramonte, "Lesbian Safety and AIDS: The Very Last Fairy Tale," Visibilities, Jan.-Feb. 1988, p. 6.
- Donna Minkowitz, "Safe and Sappho: An AIDS Primer for Lesbians," Village Voice, Feb. 21, 1989, p. 21.
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- 7. Denise Ribble, Community Health Project, personal communication, Dec. 1989 regarding study entitled "HIV Infection in Lesbians," Ribble, Marte and Kelly.
- 8. P.G. Spitzer, N.J. Weiner, "transmission of HIV infection from a woman to a man by oral sex." New England Journal of Medicine 1989, 320:251. ▼



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GLAADTIDINGS

GLAAD Tidings is a program of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. For more information about the material in this week's column, or about GLAAD, call (212) 966-1700.

ecent developments have us wondering if Toys R Us should change its name to Bigots R Us.

You may remember reading that ABC-TV lost over a million dollars worth of advertising revenue on an

episode of thirtysomething that depicted two gay men sitting in bed. GLAAD tried to unearth those companies that canceled their ads. While we were not successful (ABC has invoked a dense cloak of secrecy to protect its advertisers), we have since learned that although Toys R Us advertised on the gaythemed episode, it is pulling its advertisements from future episodes of the program.

The following is an excerpt of a letter that Toys R Us is sending to people upset about the company's sponsorship of the gay-themed episode:

"At the time we make our commercial buys, we are not aware of the content of the individual programs. While we strive to monitor the appropriateness of each program, the individual content of each episode is not available to us to review. Needless to say, we were very disappointed with the content of the episode in question."

The company's decision to cancel future sponsorship of thirtysomething appears to be a direct response to a letterwriting campaign initiated by the American Family Association (A.F.A.). The campaign is directed against all the companies that advertised on the gay-themed episode. Toys R Us has failed, so far, to disassociate itself from the homophobic views of the A.F.A. Consequently, the right wing group is claiming that Toys R Us' action is a complete victory for the A.F.A. against the evil forces of homosexuality.

Programs with non-stereotypical "positive" lesbian and gay characters offend the religious right wing only because they are offended by representations of the objective truth that the vast majority of gay people lead happy, productive, loving lives.

Write to Toys R Us, and demand that they issue a public statement affirming that they do not avoid shows with positive gay or lesbian characters in choosing television programs on which to advertise. Suggest to them Our second item is also about advertising—the kind we wish wouldn't happen. The subject is a bigoted one-page ad that Dodge Truck is placing in magazines such as *Outdoor Life*.

According to Advertising Age, our source for this item, the ad plugs the Dodge Ramcharger 4 X 4 and stresses how macho it is. Specfically, the ad states that the truck is "not a trendy toy...not built for the beautiful people." The ad concludes, "...it snacks on gravel and lumbers over logs. The only thing it can't deal with is pansies."

As GLAAD has discovered through its Reference Project, there are many thesauruses that will tell you that "pansy" is a synonym for homosexual. (We disagree but that's another story. The point is that many people in America believe it.)

This ad attempts to use bigotry to sell trucks by tapping into the stereotype of gay men as silly and weak. The subliminal message is, if you don't want to be like that, this is the truck for you.

Besides its obvious bigotry, the ad

is troubling for another reason. seems oblivious to the fact that there is a huge, gay and lesbian consumer group to be wooed. Recent studies have shown that gay people earn quite a bit more money than the national average. And that gay people are more likely than the general public to be influenced by advertising when deciding

on a purchase (which, in itself, might not be something of which to be proud). We deserve respect simply for being who we are, and we also deserve respect as a significant consumer group. Money is clout, whether we like it or not.

To complain about this ad, write: J.L. Hickey, Manager, Corporate Advertising, Chrysler Motors, CIMS 416-14-30, 12000 Chrysler Drive, Highland Park, Michigan, 48288. Or call (313) 956-5741. —Karin Schwarz



that they demonstrate their commitment to quality programming, regardless of gay and lesbian content, by sponsoring gay-themed programs in the future. It would also be appropriate for the company to give money to social service programs like Project 10 in Los Angeles that are directed at gay and lesbian youth.

Write Robert Nakasone, President, Toys R Us, 461 From Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. Or call him at (201) 262-7800.

KRAMER from page 37

angry about. To tell them face to face what we want from them that will make us less angry.

Stage Three is FOLLOW-THROUGH: seeing that the results of the negotiations are obtained as quickly as humanly possible. Staying on top of each situation on a day-to-day basis, never letting up the pressure.

Anger—the protests and the zaps that ACT UP has mastered so beautifully—must continue through stages two and three. Anger, threat, embarrassment—all comprise the muscle that make negotiations and follow-through work.

ACT UP is not very good at stage two, negotiation.

Nor is anyone else in the gay community.

Additionally, we don't have any designated team of negotiators. That's why there was such anger at Sweeney, Stoddard, Johnson and Wilson. No one had empowered them to speak for everyone, to give away our store. That's also why there is always such fury whenever GMHC makes a sweeping, major decision for all of us, without having had the courtesy to ask our opinion. We resent them playing the Mother Church, being so haughty and superior.

ACT UP, and everyone else in the gay and AIDS communities, including GMHC, is wretched at stage three, follow-through.

I think this reason alone—that we are unable to follow-through—can prevent us from making any real progress, politically or in ending AIDS.

All ACT UP knows is how to be angry.

But it does not know how to use this power. And it seems reluctant to learn.

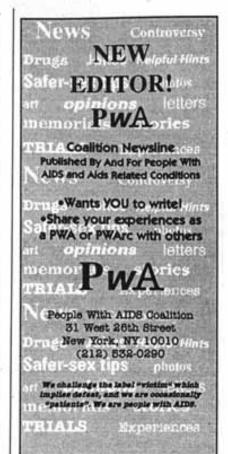
ACT UP has plenty of smart street troops. But we have very few negotiators. And no experts at all in followthrough. (The few negotiators we have—on our Treatment & Data Committee—have changed history, not just been angry at it.)

Can it be that ACT UP is only interested in being angry?

ACT UP now welcomes some 500 men and women each and every week. This is unprecedented. It's a lot of magnificent person-power, most of it underutilized. And because we are dreadfully organized and dreadfully disorganized and because of our callous disregard for putting our house in order and our equally callous disregard for negotiation and follow-through, ACT UP could very easily piss away everything we have accomplished and all the power we've achieved. We were children three years ago, when we were born. Now we should be growing up.

Will we do it? Can we do it? It will be a tragedy if we don't, or can't.

(P.S. THE GAY GOMMUNITY MUST FIND A WAY TO SPEAK WITH SOME PRETENSE OF UNITY. The Myers Mess has brought this lesson home yet again. How are we going to achieve this? How can we empower leaders who in turn network with us before they speak for us? How can we form a reasonable representative government, if you will? I know fellow Out Week columnist, Art Leonard, is noodling over a few ideas. Anyone else?) ▼



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funded by the National Institutes of Health, has reported a continual drop in the rate of new HIV infections among its participants. Yet seroconversion (becoming HIV-positive, as indicated by the presence of antibodies) still occurs because some men in the study have not changed their risk behavior even after receiving preventive education and counseling.

The Chicago MACS study reported in 1988 that 63 percent of the more than 1,000 participants consistently avoided unprotected anal intercourse. The rest reported that they either practiced safer sex intermittently or had made no changes in their unsafe behavior.

Last December the Archives of Internal Medicine reported that of more than 800 Los Angeles area gay and bisexual men surveyed in 1987, 21 percent engaged in unprotected anal sex at least once during a two-month period, despite their knowledge that such behavior put them at high risk for contracting AIDS.



"FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION" GMHC's Maggie Reinfeld

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

Two studies of continuing high-risk behavior among gay and bisexual men were presented last June at the Fifth International AIDS Conference in Montreal. Research conducted in San Francisco found that some 15 percent of a sample of 453 men occasionally went back to having unprotected anal sex after baving adopted safer sex practices. A study of 279 Australian men found that more than 70 percent acknowledged engaging in high-risk sex at least once during the previous year.

Similarly dismaying news has come from New York City. A research team led by John L. Martin of the Columbia University School of Public Health found that nearly 20 percent of a sample of 357 gay and bisexual men continued to engage in unprotected, receptive anal intercourse as late as 1987.

Rectal gonorrhea is considered an "indirect marker" for possible HIV transmission. Late last year Morbidity and Mortality Weekly reported a surge of new gonorrhea cases among Seattle-area men—the first rise in these infections since 1982.

At New York's Community Health Project, "We see rectal gonorrhea all the time," says Jeff Engel, manager of the CHP night clinic, where gay men can receive testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. "We're also seeing people who might not necessarily have a sexually transmitted disease but who've come to us for testing because they've had unsafe sex."

An average of seven percent of rectal gonorrheal cultures taken last year at eight New York City STD clinics frequented by gay and bisexual men (including CHP) came up positive, according to the Department of Health's Office of Lesbian and Gay Health Concerns. Although that figure represents a four percent decrease from 1986, when statistics were last compiled, it nonetheless indicates high-risk behavior that may result in new AIDS cases.

It's important, however, not to draw a skewed conclusion about gay sex in the age of AIDS from the bad news. The belief that gay men are well-informed about safer sex and are practicing it is not a pollyana-ish, self-congratulatory myth. Safer sex education campaigns, devised and implemented mainly by the gay male community itself, have brought about a dramatic decline in the rate of new HIV infections.

Gay men, in response to AIDS, have made "perhaps the most dramatic health behavior change in recent history," according to a recent report by the Citizens Commission on AIDS for New York City and Northern New Jersey, a non-governmental, foundation-supported group that makes public policy recommendations.

But the Citizens Commission also decried the belief that "continued AIDS education for gay men is not necessary because they have all adopted 'safer sex' practices." Although "gay men in general" have cut out high-risk sex, "some have been unable or unwilling to do so and others have difficulty in maintaining behavior change over long periods."

.

Commercial sex establishments play a mixed roll in the prevention wars. Manhattan's two remaining bathhouses, the East Side Club and its little brother, the Wall Street Sauna, distribute free rubbers and lubricant to patrons. At both clubs taped messages regularly play over the loudspeaker system to remind men that "this is a safe sex establishment" and that anyone found violating "the safe sex guidelines" posted on the walls will be kicked out. Staff members make sure there's no sex going on in the hallways, steam room or sauna or any other "public areas" of the club.

Neither the East Side nor Wall Street bathhouse can keep tabs on what's going on in private rooms (except when exhibitionists leave their doors open), but both places, through attitude and action, create a safer sex-supportive environment. The East Side Club goes one step further, inviting GMHC outreach staff to give safer sex talks and show videos to the men in towels.

At other pay-to-play establishments that are not gay terrain, such as the many ostensibly straight porno theatres where men meet men, there is little or no attempt by management to discourage unsafe sex. My friend who frequents one such place reports much unprotected buttfucking. There's one regular, "a beautiful boy," who drinks beer until he's high enough to drop drawers and present his sweet ass to anyone who can make it feel good, with or without a rubber.

No doubt many "men who have sex with men" go to places like that theater. But there are two formidable barriers to educating porno-house patrons about safer sex. Management won't allow it because they'd have to acknowledge the inadmissible—that gay sex actually occurs on the premises. And the patrons, many of them self-hating closet cases, will resist any attempts to get them to acknowledge their homosexual behavior.

* * * * *

Individual personality and social environment shape sexual behavior, but there's much mystery in the dialectic of psyche and society. "We don't really know why people do what they do sexually," says Maggie Reinfeld, Director of Education at Gay Men's Health Crisis. "We have hints, good guesses and some fragmentary information."

Reinfeld and other AIDS educators and researchers are, however, learning more about the circumstances and situations

in which men are likely to slip into unsafe sex.

With AIDS being no short-term crisis but an epidemic of uncertain duration, people at risk must make permanent changes in their behavior. In time some men apparently suffer a kind of battle fatigue which leads them to let down their guard and have unsafe sex. They may rationalize risk by thinking, "he looks healthy," or they'll believe a partner who claims to be HIV-negative.

Cynicism about the efficacy of safer sex practices and a sense of powerlessness to change long-standing patterns of sexual behavior can spur risk-taking. And for some men who suspect they're infected, or even know themselves to be, fatalism might overpower their better judgment: "I'm gonna get it anyway, so why bother with rubbers?"

Drugs also have been implicated as contributing to unsafe behavior, either through impairing judgment or their purported aphrodisiac effect. New York researcher John Martin found that "...the link between drug use and risk taking appears to be a direct one, whereby stopping the use of drugs with sex is followed by clear and significant decline in rates of unprotected anal intercourse and risk of HIV infection."

Love and intimacy, touted as the life-saving antidote to dangerous "promiscuity," can actually be co-factors for AIDS. A half-dozen men in the Pittsburgh MACS study had unsafe sex (and later became HIV-positive) because they fell in love with their partners, and felt that insisting on safer sex would somehow betray the trust between them. Or, because they were "swept away" by passion, they readily accepted their partner's claims to be uninfected.

"Love definitely changes the picture," says Anthony J. Silvestre, a sociologist and research specialist with Pittsburgh MACS. "It's easier for some men to practice safer sex with tricks or anonymous partners than to negotiate it when they're becoming intimate with someone."

What's needed, says Silvestre, is preventive education that helps men deal with the impact of emotions on sexual decision-making and resist pressure from partners who want unsafe sex.

* * * * *

Gay Men's Health Crisis pioneered risk reduction education programs for the gay male community. GMHC's first safer sex workshops were geared towards teaching men the basics about AIDS and HIV transmission, and how to protect themselves. In the early years of the epidemic, when terror and uncertainty were rampant, this "primary prevention" education was essential to promoting immediate behavior change that could save lives.

Equipped with safer sex knowledge, many gay men adjusted to the ongoing threat of AIDS by eliminating high-risk sex. But for those who found it difficult to sustain behavior changes over time, new prevention strategies were needed. "We needed to find out what were the personal and social barriers to staying with safer sex over the long haul," says Reinfeld. "It was unrealistic to assume that everybody would simply follow the safer sex guidelines once they've learned about them. Emotions rise in contrast to what the mind knows."

Reinfeld and Michael De Mayo, GMHC's Assistant Coordinator for AIDS Prevention Program Development, devised a new program they called "Keep it Up." GMHC's earlier workshops, says De Mayo, "disseminated information in a safe and fun environment," but "Keep it Up" was designed to "go deeper"—to encourage men to acknowledge and confront their difficulties in sticking with safer sex.

Last December I participated in "Keep it Up" at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. There were about 60 of us gathered in the Center's vast third-floor meeting hall,



"A SENSE OF BEING POWERLESS" Photo: Ellen B. Neipris
Ronald Johnson of the Minority Task Force on AIDS

a group that was overwhelmingly white, middle class and "gay identified"—GMHC's traditional constituency. De Mayo, who, with assistance from two GMHC staff members, led the workshop, urged us to be candid and not censor ourselves, to use "lots of T' statements" and not be judgmental of others.

After watching a brief (and to my taste, unerotic) safer sex video, we mingled for a while, shaking hands and introducing ourselves. A friendly, if not particularly cruisy scene. Then we split up into smaller groups of eight or ten men for the day's business, which turned out mainly to be making lots of lists. What's safe, what's unsafe. What we liked, and didn't like about condoms ("They taste like shit!"). We listed the gay organizations and activities we participate in, as well as "what makes us proud" of the gay community, the point being that involvement in a community whose norm is safer.sex provides support for individual behavior.

When we weren't making up lists we collectively created safer sex scenarios (writing them on paper, that is) and engaged in role-playing exercises in which two men "negotiated" safer sex. De Mayo gave us the basic premise for each role-play. I was to persuade my "boyfriend," a cute, curly-haired grad student, to let me fuck him rubberless.

"We've been together for a while now, we're a couple," I pleaded. "I swear I'll pull out before I come, whatsa matter, don't you trust me?" My putative paramour would not be swept away by my pleading, and he denied me entry. I, equal-

ly intransigent, insisted on not rubbering up, "Just this once." The upshot was no nookie, but my partner made the right point: in all encounters always insist on safe sex.

This seemed to surprise some of the guys. One, a young Frenchman, said he thought you could interpret the safer sex guidelines more liberally the better you knew your partner. He was startled to be told otherwise. Another man, a Latino from Queens who had said little during the entire workshop, confided to me that he and his lover of five years never used rubbers for fucking. When I told him that could be dangerous, he looked stunned.

His and the Frenchman's admissions were, however, the only instances of self-revelation I heard all day. The men at the workshop were smart and articulate to the point of glibness, but surprisingly reticent about their own sexual activity and how they felt about it. I didn't hear anybody own up to feeling angry or depressed about having to give up or change



"NOT OPEN TO TALKING ABOUT SEX"
Luis Nieves of the Hispanic AIDS Forum

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

favorite sex practices. Nor did I hear any acknowledgement of struggles with safer sex along the lines of "I try to keep it safe, but it's tough and sometimes I fuck up."

De Mayo was obviously frustrated by our unwillingness to let our hair down. Several days later he told me that of the four "Keep it Up" workshops he'd let ours was "the most resistant" when it came to "revealing and admitting."

"People were more interested in knowing why rubbers break than in dealing with their feelings," he said.

But maybe all that compulsive list-making provided a handy distraction from dealing with emotional business. Could be that the workshop design itself needs some re-thinking. Reinfeld says "Keep it Up" is "a tool for identifying issues, one piece of a longer term strategy." The workshop is the first of its kind, she notes, and it is still evolving.

"We're in uncharted waters here," she says. "We're inventing a field as we go along."

.

GMHC would like to see other AIDS organizations adopt "Keep it Up" as a model for their own safer sex continuing-ed efforts. Some of those groups, however, doubt whether a program geared mainly to middle class, openly gay whites is appropriate for the people they serve.

"We can't really talk about preventing people from relaps-

ing into unsafe sex because we're still trying to get them to have safer sex in the first place," says Ronald Johnson, Executive Director of the Minority Task Force on AIDS. His two-year-old Harlem-based agency provides preventive education, counseling, legal assistance and other services to its Black and Hispanic clients.

Johnson says gay men of color "tend to be a disjointed community, they're not as cohesive as white gay men." This underdeveloped group sense, he says, makes it harder to "build a community norm for safer sex."

Poverty, racism and homophobia, observes Johnson, are formidable obstacles to community-building. These social ills converge to "wreak havoc on the self-esteem of gay men of color, and foster a sense of being powerless to change one's life, to protect one's self."

The Minority Task Force offers two types of prevention programs for homosexually-active men. Focus groups, conducted in a task force volunteer's home with ten to 20 men, educate participants about HIV transmission and safer sex techniques. Johnson says the small, informal focus groups work well with men of color "who don't necessarily identify with the gay movement and may feel uncomfortable in large, overwhelmingly white forums."

The one-time focus groups are followed up with continuing support groups that try to reinforce the lessons about safer sex. "The message is, 'Okay, now we know what safer sex is, what are the psychological hang-ups that might prevent us from practicing it?" says Johnson.

To men whose self-esteem may be damaged by racism and homophobia, "we stress the importance of taking care of one's self, and that safer sex is part of the definition of that."

Culture greatly complicates prevention efforts among Hispanic men, according to Luis Nieves, coordinator of Entre Hombres, a project of the Hispanic AIDS Forum that targets gay and bisexual men. Latinos who are connected to the larger North American gay community—"a minority of a minority"—are more likely to practice safer sex consistently than those who are less gay identified and adhere more closely to traditional, religious-based moral values.

Tell some Latinos they should always use condoms and they'll think you're suggesting they're promiscuous. "I'm no puta (whore)," they'll say. "I only go with one person at a time." Says Nieves, "That person may go to a disco, meet someone and stay with him a week. Maybe he'll do that every week and have 52 partners a year, and say, 'I'm not promiscuous.'

"I would say to that person, 'look, promiscuity is not the issue, it's whether you're engaging in high-risk behavior' by not using condoms."

According to Nieves, many homosexually-active Latinos are married to women and are having anonymous gay sex in theaters, parks and public bathrooms. "It's very hard to get them to talk about what they do," Nieves says. "And because they don't identify as gay, they don't see themselves as members of a high risk group." Preventive education for these men should "just deal with the issue of having sex—the message should be—'if you are having sex, you have to take care of yourself."

Nieves, echoing Ronald Johnson, doubts a large, "Keep it Up"-style workshop would appeal to many Latino men. "The Latino community in general is not open to talking about sex,





Photo: Michael Wakefield

which is seen as very personal." Entre Hombres, like the Minority Task Force, conducts small, at-home focus groups that loosen inhibitions and get people talking. But these groups, says Nieves, serve a more profound end by "helping to create a sense of gay community" that sustains a commitment to safer sex.

AIDS educators agree that innovative new prevention programs are needed for men who have unsafe sex for reasons other than a lack of information. Without such efforts, there'll be new cases of HIV infection among those who've already been educated.

The next wave of AIDS education must focus on more than sexual behavior. It will have to address the impact of emotions and intimacy on risk-taking, and how to resist pressure from partners to behave unsafely. Drug users and heavy drinkers, and self-destructive and depressed people, will need counseling to supplement safer-sex education. For these and other gay men at risk, preventive education may have to be ongoing to reinforce changes.

Meanwhile, basic risk reduction information has yet to fully reach substantial numbers of those who need it, including men of color, bisexuals and youths.

Who's going to pay for these efforts, the innovations and the catchup work? The federal government has the most resources at its disposal, but its history of support for preventive education aimed at gay and bisexual men is a dismal one. Thanks to Jesse Helms and other congressional reactionaries, no Centers for Disease Control (CDC) funds can go to programs that "promote or encourage" homosexual activity. The only acceptable message is, "just say no."

Local and state funding for creative education campaigns, including safersex maintenance, is far more likely than federal support. But the prospects for public funding are generally poor because most government monies for AIDS go to health care delivery—and even those appropriations are notoriously inadequate.

When it comes to saving lives through education, the gay community today is pretty much in the same position it's been in throughout the AIDS epidemic: forced to rely on its own creativity and commitment.

LOOKOUT



In the World of Tommorow, when the Queer Nation rises up and assumes power, there will be signs like this one from last Monday's Times prohibiting heterosexual union.

LOOKOUT



Photo: Michael Wakefield

Last time she landed on the Wicked Witch of the East. This time it's the One Hour Photo on 93rd Street.

-M.S.



OMY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

Dear Brad:

After a discouraging encounter some time ago with a man who claimed to be peripheral German nobility and, to prove it, saddled me with an intimidating bar tab, I've been understandably reluctant to get involved again socially. Still, loneliness got the better of reason and I found myself making a date with this person, Arthur, whom I kept running into at the deli. He didn't want to exchange phone numbers but he told me instead to meet him at the theater where he works.

When I arrived there that night Arthur said he hoped I wouldn't mind but friends had dropped in unexpectedly from Australia and he'd invited them and some other people along. This date suddenly burgeoned into one of those unwieldy groups that can't decide where to go. We walked over to Sam's restaurant, picking up a 23-year-old actor named Travis along the way and losing the Australians entirely. Sam's was, of course, too

crowded and we ended up next door at Barrymore's—except for Arthur's other friends who'd spotted some people they knew at the bar.

By the time we were seated at Barrymore's there was only Arthur and myself and this kid, Travis, who ordered a whiskey sour and announced that he'd been called back for a revue of Barry Manilow songs. Arthur asked me where I was from, I said Houston and Travis announced that he had just broken up with someone from Houston and that it would all be in his book one day. Arthur admitted that he, too, was in the process of breaking up with his lover who was also his roommate who was also from Houston. The conversation came to a halt and our waiter asked if we'd like another round. Travis announced that he'd like a Tom Collins and a plate of fried calamari. Arthur, as it just so happened, is an actor as well and the two of them began a lengthy comparison of scene study classes followed by an extensive

and highly critical dissection of Grand Hotel. Travis ordered a Brandy Alexander and the waiter asked to see some I.D. About this time I became aware that Travis and Arthur were holding hands under the table. The waiter brought the Brandy Alexander and insisted we settle the bill. Travis suggested going downtown to Eighty-Eights and I was just about to decline when I realized that I hadn't been included in the invitation. Arthur and Travis each gave me five dollars and Arthur told me to stop by the theater "sometime." They both vanished while I made up the difference.

Frankly I feel cheated. My funds are not unlimited and if every man I meet is going to skip out on the bill I think I'd rather stay home.

-Burned

Dear Burned:

I understand, perhaps better than anybody, how difficult it can be to resume social activities after an unpleasant experience (and, really, is there any other kind?) with German aristocracy. You must, however, make the effort, though as you've learned, this does not mean falling in with performers. Nobody said it better than Irving Berlin when he wrote, "there's no people like show people" unless, of course, it was Joan Didion when, in another context, she wrote about "people moved by strange, conflicted, poorly comprehended and above all, devious motivations." What you need to do is seek out more essentially realiable sort of people, like business affairs administrators or political science majors or, yes, even advice columnists.

Warning: under no circumstances, if you're tired of getting stuck with the tab, should you go out to dinner with activists. They'll not only stiff you but they'll call you a Nazi war criminal and demand your resignation as their date in the process. ▼

How to Make a Cuban-American Faggot Scream

(#5 in an occasional series exploring our ethnic diversity)

- · Ask why his hair isn't shiny like Ricky Ricardo's.
- Tell him you watch Sabado Gigante every Saturday night and even sing along with the Head and Shoulders lingles.
- Ask him if his parents made him vote for Ronald Reagan.
- · Make sexual references to those big fat cigars.
- . Ask over and over if he's ever been to Castro Street.
- . Ask him if he's got any relatives with good drug connections.
- Assume he does.
- Tell him you understand what being Cuban is all about—you've been to Miami...twice.
- Assume he's circumcised; act horrified when you find out he's not.
- . Assume he's not circumcised; act horrified when you find out he is.
- As him if he ever plans to move out of New Jersey.

-Roy DeLaMar



By Michelangelo Signorile

There it was on the newsstand: the National Enquirer with the homophobic headline, "Branded a Gay, Cher's Daughter Chastity Fights Back." It was an "exclusive interview" which promised "the truth about Cher, men and Chastity," and reported that "Chastity is raging mad over being branded a gay in recently published reports." This, of course, comes just weeks after Star reported, "Cher Shattered as Daughter Chastity Tells Her: I'm Gay."

What exactly is going on here?

Well, what we're supposed to believe is that the sleazy tabloid Star once again printed misinformation, namely that Chastity Bono is a lesbian. And that, in the spirit of competition, the other sleazy tabloid, National Enquirer, got an exclusive interview with Chastity, who wanted to set the record straight, so to speak, and let everyone know that she of course likes men and is not one of them.

But a few phone calls, some digging, some tip-offs and lots of yelling and screaming have revealed the real story, which is much more sordid, with lots of sleazy characters. Sadly, it seems Chastity Bono is yet another

young lesbian being victimized by powerful forces. Making her decisions, pushing
her around are: a homophobic record
company, a manipulative, powerful, internationally-recognized public relations firm
where gay is a dirty word (even though
half of the staff is queer, of course), a
mother, who, at worst, wants her daughter
to be depicted as a heterosexual because
she's worried about both their careers, and
who, at best, doesn't care one way or the
other, even while her daughter is being
victimized by so many people; and a
slimy, sensationalist, money-hungry media
which loves to feed a homophobic society.

To flesh out the story we go back to Jahuary 2. That's when Star first printed its piece about Chastity coming out and Cher's reaction. Whether or not the story was true, gay media analysts commended

the usually homophobic Star for the way they had handled it. "When we first read in Star that Cher is going with Chas to a therapist, we figure the worst-that they're going to mess with Chastity's mind and try to change her. But the therapy is for Cher, it turns out, to help her adjust to her daughter's sexual orientation," writes Henry Yeager in OutWeek's GLAAD Tidings column a few week's later (No. 32, Feb. 5). Yeager also points out that there is a sidebar published next to the article offering helpful information for parents who may find out that one of their children is gay or lesbian. The editors then present a series of the "most often asked questions" with answers by Paulette Goodman, president of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

Although it goes without saying that

They're Out! Networks to Dump Dan Rather and Bryant Gumbel MATIONAL ENQUIRER

Branded a Gay, Cher's Daughter
Chastity Fights Back
THE TRUTH
ABOUT
CHER,
MEN & ME

EXCUSSIVE INTERVIEW

Ava Gardiner Dies
Still Carrying
A Tarch for Ex-Hubby Sinetru
— Plus Her Last
Revealing Interview

Boat Stress With Power of Crystals

the piece was sensationalist, it wasn't all that homophobic and was, I'm sure, helpful to many people across the country trying to accept their children's homosexuality. It also was interesting that the story centered on Cher's not accepting her daughter's homosexuality, rather than simply the fact that Chastity is a lesbian. This fact was actually taken for granted, as if most people knew already, which has, of course, been the case in many circles in New York City for several years. The real inaccuracies in Star's story may actually lie in Cher's reactions.

According to several sources I spoke with, Cher has known of Chastity's lesbianism for about two years and has no problems with it, personally, (I say personally, because other sources claim that Cher thinks differently about Chastity's lesbian-

ism *professionally*, and feels that it does hurt careers if it is known). The two, I'm told, have a fairly good relationship.

Chastity became somewhat of a pop hero in the gay and lesbian community in the next few weeks, her lesbianism being so public.

Then all of the demons began to knock heads.

A couple of weeks later a little item on Page Six (New York Post) appeared: "Chastity Bono—perhaps reacting to stories in Star that she prefers the company of women—has been seen around town with two guys lately."

The following week—last week—the completely homophobic Enquirer story hit the stands. But in its "exclusive interview," Chastity said lots of things and refuted lots of things, but never stated, "I am not a lesbian."

She called the Star article "phony" and said it was packed with "lies." She said that she and her mother were never in therapy. She said that she and her mother have a great relationship. She said her mom is not pregnant, as had been reported. Stie even said she "dates men." But nowhere in this misleading article does she refute her homosexuality. Why no?

According to Enquirer, "Chastity's so furious over the gay reports that she refuses to even dignify them with a lengthy denial. 'Why be so blatant? It will just add fuel to their phony stories." she fumed." (Give me a break!) Even Cher is quoted in the article making vague statements. And her publicist, Lois Smith of the huge publicity firm PMK, also interviewed for this piece, said. "Cher is sick and tired of the vicious rumors and outright lies contained in published reports about her and her daughter." But darling Lois never alludes to exactly wbicb rumors. And I doubt she ever will.

The biggest question here is: Who arranged this? Who set up this interview? Given Cher's antagonistic, even violent relationship with the tabloids, (her boyfriend once hit a Star photographer) which regularly rip her to shreds, why on earth would she have her daughter speak to National Enquirer? Why would she berself speak to them and give such wretched tabloids-which have given her so many headaches-any credibility? Why would Cher's publicist, being a professional who handles the media, let her client talk to these very tabloids? (Think about it. This is CHER. International superstar. Icon of billions. She does not give interviews to just anyone. She, in fact, at this stage of the game, rarely gives any interviews.) WHY THE FUCK WOULD THE PUBLICIST HER-

See GOSSIP WATCH on page 49

Out on the Town

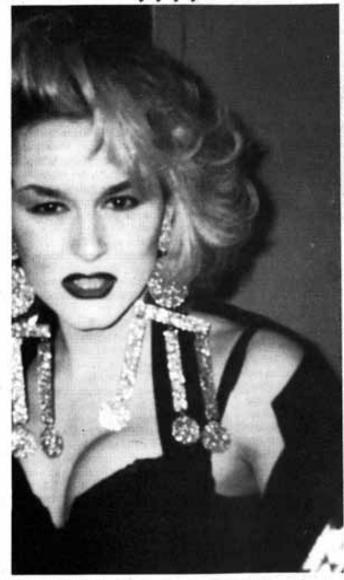


With Liz and Sydney

by Liz Tracey and Sydney Pokorny

Liz and Sydney: Five Reasons Why There Aren't Enough Lesbian Personals in OutWeek

- There aren't enough lesbians, period.
- 2. The word "cunnilingus" costs \$10.00 to have in the ad.
- 3. The lesbian community in New York City is so small, everyone will know it's your ad.
 - 4. Who can compete with "HOT STUD COP"?
- Lesbians don't feel comfortable buying into the heterosexist, patriarchal idea of stating "Photo: a must". (Except, of course, for Liz, who would ask for measurements.)



Sister Codie Ravioli

If you have VCRs and/or cable TV, you probably had more fun this week than we did. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't keep reading. The best gossip usually comes from the strangest sources.

Sydney: This week, we were given the choice of attending two X parties; Shescape's X-Party, which, to my surprise, required attendees to bring or meet a former lover, and David Leigh and Lee Chappell's Locomotion, an unofficial X-travaganza at the Ro-X-y. We figured the Roxy would be slightly more hospitable than a small room filled with jilted and possibly hostile lesbians. I reconsidered this decision once we arrived at the club and greeted by a certain doorperson most ungraciously, gesturing towards us, asking, What are these?"

Liz: I would have gestured back, but I'm a nice girl. After being lied to (Sydney: We were supposidly on the guest list, a not uncommon procedure when having press at your event), we were sent inside with discount tickets, and essentially made to pay for the privilege of covering this party. We were not the only people who had a "misunderstanding:" we later learned that a twotime (not two-timing) Miss Boy Bar and this year's runner-up were also blown off at the door.

Sydney: Once inside, we noticed the crowd did not justify the wait at the door. Basically, a knock-off Copa, Locomotion featured glitter and club kids crammed in every empty spot. The evening was, at times, schizophrenic; the most memorable events being a drag queen (with a seemingly endless set of wardrobe changes) and a lesbian feigning sex on a swing, and a boy and a girl (horrors)!!) attempting actual sex under the stairs to the sort-of VIP room.

Liz: Suffice it to say, it was only when a fine looking young man approached a friend of ours, asking to be introduced to the "cute blond boy" he had had the door people pull out of the crowd, did reality finally come clear:

Once again, I was being mistaken for a gay man.

Sydney: I am real tired of being treated like riff-raff because I left my miniskirt and heels at home. In an effort to educate insensitive club people who profit from gay or gay friendly events and yet exclude lesbians and gay men not deemed "hip," Liz and I are preparing a PR campaign. We are currently snapping photos of different dyke types. Press kits will be mailed to all promoters and door people (Liz: Along with the correct spelling of Sydney's name), so that any party targeted to gay or mixed crowds will also admit lesbians without harassment.

Liz: I'm sorry to say that the Wednesday night parties, a k a Club Couture, at 21 Hudson, have stopped. The night it closed was very fun; everyone knew each other and drank for free; at least one of those things always guarantees a good party. The scheduled performer, Sister Codie, instead of her act, shot a mean game of pool, displaying an amazing knack for accuracy while draped hotly on the table.

Listen up: Kenny Kenny, Bella Bolski and Sister Dimension's pansexual Panty Girdles has moved to Sunday nights. Fasten your corsets, it's going to be a bumpy ride. ▼

GOSSIP WATCH from page 47

SELF SPEAK TO THE PAPER AND GET HERSELF QUOTED? The answer is because publicist Lois Smith is much smarter than you think.

Star and Enquirer are at the same "credibility level," as I like to call it. The Globe, The Weekly World News and the rest of tyhe tow-headed-aliens-give-birth-to-three-headed-human publications are at much lower credibility levels, while People is at a much higher one. If Smith, for whatever reasons, wanted to refute the fact that Chastity is a lesbian, she would not go to People magazine, for instance, because that would be elevating even the notion of Chastity's lesbianism and also would bring in a whole new audience.

No, it's best to stay within the same audience market as Star. That way, most of the same people who read the Enquirer story will be the same ones who read the Star story and will, hopefully realize that Star wasn't telling the truth. Everyone else wouldn't pay attention, as they normally don't to those papers anyway. It's a smart idea: Just let the sleazy tabloids battle

it out. It's worth it because, frightening or not, millions of people read this shit and they believe what they read and you simply cannot have them thinking this hideous thing about your client. Of course, you'd have to get the clients—Cher and Chastity—to talk to the publication because it's the only way you'll get the story in and get it the way you want it. There's a big payoff in supplying an "exclusive interview" to these sleaze rags. You can, for instance, tell them EXACTLY

THE WAY YOU WANT THE STORY FRAMED. YOU CAN DEMAND CERTAIN QUESTIONS NOT BE ASKED. YOU CAN DEMAND THAT THEY UNCONDITIONALLY ACCEPT CERTAIN THINGS AND STILL FRAME THE STORY THE WAY YOU WANT IT. It's totally fine with them. They are not journalists. They don't care about the truth. Their attitude is, "Great, fine, whatever you say as long as you get me the interview and I can slap your client on the front page and make millions and millions and millions of dollars."

I have it from two different sources at Enquirer, on conditions of anonymity, that Lois Smith orchestrated and facilitated the article in that paper in which Chastity gives her exclusive interview. Smith is out of the country, and could not comment even though I was told that they actually have phones now in Paris. I had lengthy talks with her assistant, Mara Buxbaum, and with PMK Vice President Alan Eikorn, who said, "I don't know if Lois had anything to

do with that story. I haven't even read it myself." But most of what I discussed with both Buxbaum and Eikorn was of another matter entirely—a whole other twist in this seemingly endless tale.

It turns out that the men Chas was seen with—and written about on Page Six—were guys in her band. But rumors started circulating that one of them was actually an employee of PMK who was ordered to be her "beard"—escort her around, get in lots of pictures, act as her boyfriend. Of course this could have been a silly rumor. We all know how things start and then spread like wildfire.

But this thing was coming from all different places. It was coming from people outside the entertainment business who just happened to know some of the principles involved and it was coming from people inside PMK itself. Soon columnists at the dailies (at least, every one that I'm on speaking terms with at this point) had heard the story and each had a different, new fact to share. Some had heard that Chastity's record company had started this whole thing, and that they wanted her lesbianism squelched

GOSSIP ZAP! 212-582-1111 ZAP PMK!

immediately. Others heard it was all being done under Cher's orders. Others had been told who it exactly was in PMK who was the alleged beard. None wrote about it because, for the dailies, homosexuality is a no-no to play around with.

Mara Buxbaum, Smith's assistant, flatly denied that these allegations were true and seemed quite upset at my questions. She never refuted that Chastity is a lesbian, however, and even at one point said that as the gay press "I should understand" Chastity's predicament, implying that I should help her hide. I said that I precisely understood her predicament and saw that she was being victimized by everyone else around her, including Ms. Smith. I also told her that if PMK were responsible for the homophobic story in *Enquirer*, that particular publicist should be fired instantly.

PMK vice president Alan Eikorn and I got into a long, sometimes heated, philosophical discussion of my tactics; one which eventually had us discussing Barry Diller, David Geffen and Liz Smith (Daily News). I told him that I thought Cher should have a press conference and announce that her daughter is a lesbian and say it's wonderful. He accused me of all sorts of things from playing God to being just like the Enquirer. But he did later say that he understood my political agenda. And he even said this was all making him think about a lot of things. "It's difficult. It's not easy. But I understand."

He of course still denied that the company had given Chastity a beard, even when I mentioned that certain rumors had it that it was bis assistant who was said to be the fake boyfriend. "Absolutely false," he said. "My assistant's never even met Chastity. Look, we are not a pimping agency. This is not Hollywood of the 1940s. It's the 1990s. We don't do things that way."

Of course, I didn't have to tell him that things haven't changed. He knew that. Just as he knew that there were some really sleazy elements to his job; times when he'd be at odds with who he is. Yes, in our 20minute conversation I figured be story out.

Not more than two hours after I got off the phone with him, a close, dear friend called. He told me the story of how he had met this guy, in a place where gay boys always meet, and it was someone he knew—someone he knew who worked for PMK. The guy told him of how he was supposed to go out one night with Chastity Bono. The guy said that he was told to just escort her and be vague—not to actually say he was her boyfriend, but not to actually refute it. But, he said, the date fell through.

The guy's name is Robert, my friend said. I called PMK and asked for Alan Eikorn's office. I then asked for Robert, and was told that Robert wasn't in—but there is a Robert and he happens to be, you guessed it. Eikorn's assistant.

This all makes sense now. The guy obviously has a big mouth, and has told lots of people this story. It got all over the place before he actually had the date. Therefore it was all canceled. And therefore Eikorn is not lying when he says his assistant doesn't know Chastity. They never had a chance to meet.

But I say to Eikorn, PMK and the rest you slugs: THE TIME HAS COME. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT BEARDING ANY LONGER. WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE YOU FUCKING SELF-LOATHING QUEERS GET OTHER SELF-LOATHING QUEERS TO BEARD STILL OTHER SELF-LOATHING QUEERS. And I suggest everyone call PMK at 212-582-1111. Tell them you're calling regarding Cher and Chastity, then just keep repeating: "STOP THE BEARDING, STOP THE BEARDING, STOP THE BEARDING...." ▼

Film



GETTING CHESTY IN JACK WATERS' MALE GAYZE

Gayze and Lesbians

Films from the Naked Eye Cinema at Anthology Film Archives, 32-34 Second Ave. February 16 through 18 at 10-30 pm.

by Karl Soebnlein

t's easier to talk about what Naked Eye Cinema isn't than what it is. It's not a film collective. It's not a production company. It's not an exhibition space. It is, in the words of its founder, Jack Waters, "a screening vehicle."

More precisely, Naked Eye is a gathering of filmmakers, mostly from the Lower East Side of Manhattan and mostly making short, experimental work. Describing what constitutes "experimental" is also often easier to do in the negative: not mainstream, not professional—that is, not polished, slick or made easily accessible by narrative film codes. And, as Waters explains, it's not always successful: "We kind of learn by mistakes and by observing and by helping each other."

The "we" Waters refers to is a core group of filmmakers who have exhibited with Naked Eye consistently over the years. Though often lumped together by critics, Waters and his cohorts adamantly resist attempts to define their style. "That's something we're really very strongly against," he says. "Obviously it's convenient to describe things in groups and categories. There are similarities and relationships between the films and the filmmakers that seem to be somewhat consistent

but it's not because of anything that's contrived or intended; it's the nature of the way things get made." And the way things get made is cheaply—usually Super 8 film stock, and locally—shot in one's apartment or neighborhood with friends as cast and crew. It's a mode of operation one filmmaker has labeled "availabist"—using what's available to make art.

Jack Waters started Naked Eye Cinema with fellow filmmaker Leslie Lowe in February of 1985. Coming from a dance and performance background, Waters had begun using film as a medium of expression and wanted somewhere to show his work. He and Lowe created Naked Eye as a sort of floating film venue—a constantly changing program popping up at various sites around New York. It quickly expanded beyond their own work. "We were interested in seeing films that other people were making...as well as films that had a

historical reference," according to Waters. Early screenings included films by Sergei Eisenstein, Hollywood classics and what Waters calls "the academic stuff." But the focus remained on innovative, independent films.

This open attitude attracted gays, lesbians and straight women to Naked Eye, a make-up which still characterizes many of the screenings. Though Waters shuns such labels as "gay film collective" or "feminist collective," he will conceed a general attraction to ideas that challenge dominant culture, as well as an interest in paganism, which seems to link much of the work included over the years. "It's just about wanting to get away from a patriarchal perspective on culture and wanting to get back to a point in history where matriarchy was a strong influence...and examining how that relates to contemporary life."

The latest incarnation of this complex of interests and ideas can be seen this weekend at the Anthology Film Archives. Waters has curated a mixed bag of work with elements of horror, camp, theater, poetry and politics. On Friday, a group show includes veteran underground filmmaker Mike Kuchar's aptly titled Splatter Movie, an over-the-top spoof that manges to be both a real gross out and a guilty pleasure; The Golden Bird of Paradise, by Philly, a filmmaker who describes her style as Neo-Shamanism-A-Go-Go (as Waters says, "If you have to have a label, it might as well be totally ridiculous"); and Miss Kitt by Carl George, which intercuts a couple doing the tango with footage of the New York City Cat Show in a vague homage to Eartha Kitt (fragments of her feline voice provide the film's soundtrack). These films come off as simple, silly fun-not necessarily great cinema but certainly free from the rigid predictability of most filmgoing experiences.

Two of the films on Friday's program deserve special mention. DHPG Mon Amour, also by Carl George, and Elegy in the Streets, by Jim Hubbard, powerfully document

See WATERS on page 58

"Pets or Meat"

Roger & Me. Written, produced and directed by Michael Moore. Warner Bros.

by Bruce C. Steele

ichael Moore is a big man full of big contradictions. His docu-tragicomedy, Roger & Me, is a merciless indictment of General Motors for having eliminated 30,000 jobs in Flint, Michigan, thereby reducing the city to a virtual ghost town. Moore seems a champion of the little man, the common worker. Yet the average Joe is not exempt from his scorn. On The Tonight Show, he mocked the local gophers who drive him around on movie publicity tours-workers of a different ilk than UAW members, certainly, but a harmless group and decidedly on his side. Why make fun of them? Because he can't stand phonies of any ilk.

On the other hand, Moore himself is somewhat two-faced. He has the unthreatening demeanor of an out-of-work clown, but his appearance sugar-coats a deep cynicism and bitter sense of irony. One of the reasons he never got past P.R. and security people while making his movie may be that no one took his disheveled teddy bear too seriously. That's also probably why air-headed celebrities like Pat Boone and Miss Michigan launch so easily into dopey platitudes on camera. Newlywed Game host Bob Eubanks is so comfortable talking to Moore that he proceeds to tell a joke that simultaneously insults women, Jews and gays.

The internal contradictions extend to the film itself. It's an outrageous, hilarious parade of human stupidity on a grand scale. As Flint is dying, city officials pay feel-good snake-oil salesmen like Robert Schuller and Anita Bryant to come in and spout upbeat inanities. They waste millions of tax dollars in an incomprehensible attempt to turn the crumbling town into a tourist trap. With Moore's acerbic wit to guide through this stupifying civic vaudeville, Roger & Me is the funniest movie of any genre in recent memory. But Moore returns repeatedly to the deputy whose full-time job it is to evict people from their homes. The humor evaporates in a flash. Roger & Me is also the most

categorize. It's relentless and willfully one-sided. As a "documentary," the movie's disregard for chronology seems to undermine its integrity, and critics feel personally betrayed when they learn "the truth."

But Roger & Me is not 60 Minutes. Moore never claims to be fair. He's honest, though his honesty is at the service of his point of view. To his mind, no denunciation of GM can be too strong or too skewed. His chief weapons are his sense of injustice and his sense of humor, and he brings both to bear with a vengeance. To highlight GM's unresponsiveness to the havoc



ON TOP OF THE WORLD IN FLINT

depressing film in recent memory-all true, and no happy ending.

But the most glaring contradictions became obvious only when Film Comment editor Harlan Jacobson confronted Moore with the way the movie modifies the sequence of events. Moore makes it appear that the deterioration and governmental idiocy of the last decade all occurred during the last two or three years. He deplores the dishonesty of GM and city officials, yet he too has apparently pulled a fast one on the audience. Is this another example of his secret contempt for the little people?

Not really. In fact, it's a nonissue. Roger & Me is a kind of advocacy filmmaking media critics can't easily they've caused, he builds the movie around his futile quest to talk to GM chairman Roger B. Smith. The effect of that structuring device is to make it seem that events that occurred in 1982-85 took place after 1985, when the last round of lay-offs were announced and when Moore started filming.

If we're misled, however, it's only by that false sense of narrative compression. The source of Flint's troubles is equally true in any chronology: in the greed-dominated Reagan era, a big corporation saw nothing wrong with ruining thousands of lives simply to increase already huge profits. The parade of public idiots glossing over the destruction would be no less dis-

See ROGER on page 58

Film



WEIRD SISTERS SWEETIE (GENEVIEVE LEMON) AND KAY (KAREN COLSON).

Sweet and Sour

Sweetle. Directed by Jane Campion. Screenplay by Jane Campion and Gerard Lee. Produced by John Maynard. Avenue Pictures.

by Monica Dorenkamp

weetie is a film you very much want to like. The first full-length feature by New Zealand born, Australian-based director Jane Campion, Sweetle has a distinctive and seductive style. It is a visually beautiful film despite many shots of not very visually beautiful objects or scenes. More than its consistent calling-attention-to-itself camerawork (point of view shot after point of view shot, strange angles and cropping), it is the use of colors that immediately stuns and captivates. Combined, these things initially succeed in disrupting conventional cinematic narrative codes and our expectations of them. This, we think, is going to be a film that questions and undermines conventional modes of representation, in turn leading us to question our own mental constructs. By the end though, we feel mostly frustrated.

Despite its title, the film centers not around Sweetie, but rather her sister, Kay (Karen Colston). It is Kay who delivers an opening voice-over monologue about

her fear of trees, a theme that is strongly reinforced in the first part of the film, even before Sweetie appears. When Kay's boyfriend, Lou (Tom Lycos), plants a baby elder, Kay uproots the (family) tree in the middle of the night. Not quite sure what to do with it, she hides it-strangely, yet significantly-under a bed. When Sweetie (Genevieve Lemon) shows up unannounced at Kay and Lou's place (her presence first signified by a broken window, a forced entry). they find her in that bed with her wouldbe producer boyfriend. What is left of the tree has been pulled out from underneath it and Kay anxiously conceals it again before Lou comes in. Sweetie is immediately established as a disruptive presence, although her appearance is very welcome, her energy a sudden and sharp contrast to Kay's perpetually somber, at times tedious, nature.

Kay initially denies that Sweetie is her sister, explaining to Lou that she is just a friend. Her refusal to acknowledge this blood tie is interesting, if ineffective (for Kay's characater is such that where she could have a sister like Sweetie, she could not have a friend like her). If her refusal is a rejection of responsibility, as well as the possibility of an implicit questioning of the importance society places on blood ties. Unfortunately, such questioning never really occurs. Instead the film becomes more and more of a Freudian fantasy that ultimately only reinforces conventional images of women as inevitably repressed and borderline hysterical.

If Sweetie's arrival is something of a relief, it is because she is initially the antithesis of her controlled, and controlling, sister. Way out of control, Sweetie's role shifts in the film from the unwanted guest to the physical manifestation of Kay's own repressed fears of losing control. If Kay's phobia is of trees (a phobia played out in dreams), it is appropriate that Sweetie consistently pretends to be a dog, an animal for whom trees are something only to piss on. It is the alternately dog- and child-like nature of Sweetie that is completely absent in Kay. And though it is sometimes so extreme as to be pathetic in Sweetie, it can be recognized as necessarily so, if seen as a representation of Kay's imagined fears of her own desires.

Reinforcing the Freudian drama, Sweetie also fills the role of "daddy's little girl." Showing a lot of promise as a girl with her singing and dancing, it is implied that the pressure on her to fulfill that promise is in some way responsible for her present state. But if Sweetie never quite lived up to her father's expectations (her mother is somewhat effaced as the only consistently sane person in the film), Kay never had expectations to live up to. Sweetie is not what she could have become, but neither can Kay be that. Sweetie's response is to remain something of a child, in an effort to continue to please her father (Jon Darling). In a not very subtle, prominently labeled "significant" scene, Sweetie gropes between her father's legs while bathing him (to retrieve the soap she has dropped) while Kay watches her do so. Kay's voyeuristic pleasure in the scene is checked only by her recognition of the very visible pleasure that Sweetie is having.

Such scenes reinforce the idea of Sweetie as a manifestation of Kay's repressed desires and fears. Constructed

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Theater

All the World's a Lecture Hall

A Forest in Arden, adapted and directed by Christopher Grabowski. The New York Theater Workshop. The Perry Street Theater, Through Feb 24,

Michael Paller

onventional wisdom says that As You Like It is a pastoral comedy. But conventional wisdom, more conventional than wise, is wrong. There is no doubt that As You Like It is a comedy, but it is also rife with subterranean rumblings; very odd things go on in the forest of Arden. The relationships between Rosalind, Celia and Orlando reverberate with meanings and implications just beyond the reach of understanding. Indeed, the play owes its special effect on us to the fact that it occurs in the realm of the experienced, rather

than the understood. To do the play i as if it were only a pastoral comedy is to lose what makes its sunlight peculiar.

On the other hand, to stage only the subterranean rumblings is, equally, to miss the point. Christopher Grabowski, the young director who has fiercely adapted and directed Shakespeare's text for the New York Theater Workshop, titling it A Forest in Arden, has virtually lifted the subtext from the play and staged it by itself. He has gone about his work with a puritanical zeal-we are going to see the darkness and oddness whether we want to or not, and we are going to see it because there is nothing else to see-and the comedy has been completely excised, along with the joy and wonder. What is left is a BUTTIN' HEADS

intellectualization: everything will be revealed. When subtext is dragged into the light it loses its potency. It's point is that is in the dark, like our unconscious and our dreams. Grabowski seems to be more interested in exegesis

than in the creation of a fully realized imaginary world-as if he wanted to be a bad critic rather than a good director.

He experiments, for example, with gender-bending. Rosalind, who disguises herself as a young man because this will make her safe in the forest, is played by a young man (Michael Liani); Michael James-Reed plays Phoebe as well as Orlando and others, while Touchstone (here called The Fool) is played by Fanni Green, who also plays Oliver and Corin-and others. The sight of Celia (Susan Knight) wrestling on the floor and kissing Rosalind is somewhat tit-

illating (even if Rosalind is really a man, etc.); and, at the end, the pairing off of the lovers as same-sex couples may be provocative, but for all the director's striving, makes nothing clear.

The same is true of the wrestling motif which is pronounced through the first of the play and then vanishes. Tom Kamm's squared circle of a set is economical and interesting, but it surrounds this richly emotional play with the cold logic of geometric patterns-as if the patterns humans make could be so tidily arranged and explained.

In his desire to show us something about what underlies the surface hijinks of As You Like It, Grabowski has leached all the life from it. The actors do very little that springs from any impetus other than a director's plan; their actions have virtually nothing to do with what the characters might want to do. The Fool's constant offstage laughter



Photo: Bob Marshak grey grimness, and the cold wind of (I. to r.) Michael Liani, Susan Knight, Michael James-Reed, Fanni Green

occurs because the director has called for it, not because anything funny or ironic is occurring (Green, alas, dressed from head to foot in black, is as grim-and therefore unwise-a fool as Shakespeare never invented).

Subjugated to the director's intellectualization, the actors are indistinguishable from each other. There is nothing spontaneous in the acting, and little to indicate that the actors were allowed to make discoveries through a rehearsal process. These characters are not people in a situation, but paragraphs in a director's outline.

That Grabowski is an intelligent young man there is no doubt; he has many ideas as to what As You Like It is about. The trouble is that with every single one of them on view, the

See A FOREST on page 58

Music

Send Them Running...Scared

Love Songs for Laughs. Linda Smith, 2117 St. Paul St. #2R, Baltimore, MD 21218.

Griller. Ut. Blast First, 262 Mott St., Room 324, New York, NY 10012.

by Madam X

ock is about resistance. Because women in general, lesbians in particular, have to fight constantly in their daily lives, they are the last great, authentic rock purists. And that's why the old guard of rock crit is, and rightly so, scared shitless.

Linda Smith stubbornly and heroically refuses to play the game of rock as commodity. She puts out only cassettes. That's right, you won't find a Linda Smith album, let alone a CD. Furthermore, her cassettes are not available in any store; you have to write directly to her and she'll diligently send you your very own copy, with a friendly little handwritten note. As you might have guessed by now, Linda isn't in it for the money. But wait, it gets better! Linda records everything herself, in her



HAD THEY BEEN THREE GUYS ... - Ham, Young and Canal of UT

home, on a four-track machine. What you get are highly emotional slices of her life, of our life, set to simple but imaginative arrangements. The only frustrating thing is that I'd love to see Linda Smith get all the recognition she deserves, but in order to get it she would have to change her way of working, and that would definitely ruin the whole thing. Plus, I certainly wouldn't want to share this friend with people I have no respect for. I'm sorry, but some people don't deserve dreamy, ethereal vocals, light percussions and a cheapo organ.

On her latest tape, Love Songs for Laughs, Linda Smith covers the Raincoats' "In Love," dislocating it so much that it would take at least a minute for even the most rabid Raincoats fans to recognize the song. The whole thing is typical of Smith's mood on this tape: an almost funeral organ punctuates a slowed down, extremely melancholic, and extremely intense, song. The cassette is a very unsettling excursion into Smith's life, which seems to be full of things waiting to happen, missed opportunities and love affairs gone astray. "Find someone who you really like and you will be estranged/think more of her than anything else and you will be estranged" ("Estranged").

But Smith is not a whiner, and if you happen to empathize with the egotistic creeps on *thirtysomething*, then Linda's not for you. She's not begging for our pity, she's simply absorbed in contemplation and reflection, and we happen to be around. And although her earlier tapes showed a gift for observation and an uncommon attention to women, Smith isn't really a storyteller. Rather, she chisels perfect bubbles of emotion and blows them in our direction.

When you write Linda, as I know you will, ask also for her two previous tapes, *The Space Between the Buildings* and *Do You Know the Way...?* (\$3.50 each, \$5 for the new one.)

Ut is another example of resistance. They also refuse to compromise, although they choose a radically different way to do so. Based in London, Sally Young, Nina Canal and Jacqui Ham (recently joined by a male drummer, Charlie) reach a level of abstract furor which is almost frightening. Ascetic survivors of the late 70s "no wave," Ut have been savagely pillaged by later bands which literally cashed in on the kinds of sound they had pioneered; had they been three guys, they would be as big as Sonic Fucking Youth among the college crowds today. But wherever you turn, you find reviewers and DJs, most of them male (a sad reflection of the state of rock criticism) bewildered by Ut's music and attitude (or lack thereof). And since women just don't go out to concerts as much as men (I'm tired of being the only woman in a room full of men), who the hell is going to understand what Ut is all about?! Certainly not the fearful, who want women to play only "Luka," "Fast Car" or some other victimizing anthem.

See RUNNING SCARED on page 58

Art

Stop the World

Diurnal Experiments and Nocturnal Investigations. Fred Tomaselli. Artists Space, 223 W. Broadway. 226-3970. Through Feb. 24.

by Jon Nalley

h, the vagaries of living in the post-modern world- an existence which is given voice in Diurnal Experiments, a show curated by Cornelia Butler. Nurtured (if that is indeed possible) in Orange County's sprawling suburbia and conservatism, artist Fred Tomaselli's sculpture synergistically combines the influences of that notorious California locale's simulated lifestyle with those of his present New York City living environment, and utilizing generic, everyday objects both found and made, manages to explore the spectacle of commerce to find metaphor in the everyday.

8 Hour IV (1989) exemplifies this metaphor and juxtaposes the meaning of life to the mundane realities of the life cycle with which we cope—even survive—in spite of our alienation. This makeshift IV, in which water passes through a surgical tube and collects in hard plastic, office-use five-gallon "mountain spring" water containers, reminds us that our labor keeps us alive and that time is marked by schedules and toil, sickness and death.

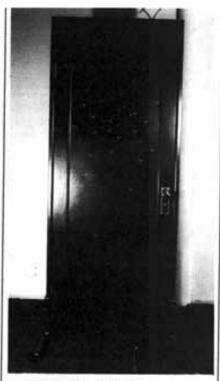
The IV, an object representing the anxiety of mortality in our death-phobic and age-denying youth culture, is especially convulsive to those from AIDS-affected communities who have seen friend after loved one after friend hooked up to gurgling life support systems, depending on technological sustenance as they barely hold on to life. Tomaselli has shown our "independence" for the illusion it really is—a reality we attempt to ignore.

Our eight-hour day on the treadmill of life is captured again in *Influence* (1989). Constructing a mirrored medicine cabinet sculpture covered with lesion-like lenses, Tomaselli examines post-modern humanity as it is "plowed under by the media-induced insanity and sheer pace of life, as well as 'disappeared' by misinformation and AIDS." The sculpture simultaneously represents our society's very narcissism and the substance-induced distortion in which we navigate our daily maze-like routines. Influences reminds us that while poking into and spying on the lives of others, our voyeurism will give us a much closer look at ourselves than those we watch.

Society's analgesic dependency is implicit in *Remedy* (1989) where 700 aspirin are carefully stacked into a vertebrae. We see that the very nerve of urban living requires that senses are put on pilot-light or turned off completely.

An amalgam of the dangers and complications lurking beyond our very doors-indeed our pleasures and routines-Paralysis (1989) is a door through which peepholes spy into 35 mm slide images of dangersignifiers. Whether a pack of Mariboros, a stack of books including authors Kafka and Foucault, an appetizing cock hanging between anonymous legs, a pint of Haagen Dazs, a newscast of a gas explosion, all remind us that we are not truly safe anywhere, not even our own apartments. Other images remind us many things are not so innocuous as we once thought-a radioactive Fiesta Ware plate, an apple, a church steeple (no, not St. Patrick's, but you get the idea), milk, meat and eggs. Tomaselli's work hits hard at our environment, an environment so polluted with misinformation and hysteria that fear of disease has, in itself, become a disease. Everything is suspect-under scrutiny-in a society in which even the body "has become a carrier, a radioactive thing, and sex and ideas are now thought to contaminate."

Respirator literally shines a spotlight on the necessary mana for sur-



BEHIND DOOR NUMBER 1 Fred Tomaselli. Paralysis, 1989. Mlxed Media

vival in this environment, without which we'd all be sleeping in Tompkins Square Park—money, honey. This, while an untitled piece has parafin melting and getting clogged one-third of the way down a stepway, just as our bodies are clogged with cholesterol and chemicals, and just as communication breaks down within our global village of faxes, pc's and other technologies.

The artist's low-tech, kinetic sensibility is clearly seen in his series of prisma color drawings on paper. Speaking to Tomaselli's scientific obsession for bodily systems and the trauma of everyday life are Heat and Hot Water (1987), in which a radiator is fused to human intestines, Cabbage and Vegetable (1989), also organ-like in perspective. Whether of steel or flesh, our physical components are just part of an ever-continuing regimen—a regimen breaking down under its sheer weight and stress. ▼

Art

Wrap It Up, I'll Take It

Ancestors Known and Unknown: Box Works, Organized by Coast to Coast. Art In General, 79 Walker Street. 219-0473. Through Feb. 24.

The "Anti-Panel" will be performed Feb. 13. Call Lotus for information 627-7772.

by Catherine Saalfield

he appointment of Woody Myers as New York City Health Commissioner initiated a scare leaving many of us simutaneously terrified and venomous



Mary Lum. Untitled, 1989. Chinese-English dictionary pages and joss paper

toward the idea of quarantine. A small box, wrapped in an American flag by Masako Takahaski, wrenches the government's approach towards its "undesirables" into a blisteringly clear reality. The labeling card tied to the flag's knot reads, "January 29, 1944/Masako Takahashi/Topeka

Relocation Center/ Utah/USA." The flag's stars cover one corner of the seven-inch by seven-inch art bomb, while through the white part of the stripes you can see "Made in Japan" printed on the hidden, inside container. Quarantine, relocation and isolation by any other name, must not go unannounced, forgotten or ignored.

The seen and the unseen, the hidden and the exposed, these are consistent themes in the group show called "Ancestors Known and Unknown: Box Works." At Art In General, a Tribeca gallery located at the edge of Chinatown, "Ancestors" is over a hundred boxes (using that term generously) and involves hundreds of differ-

ent materials, from cowry shells and mirrors to kente cloth and pinecones to tampon wrappers and camera negatives to wishbones and human hair. Sponsored by Coast to Coast: National Women Artists of Color, the show represents women artists whose bloodlines are Native American, Asian-American, Latina and African-American, who live anywhere in the country, and who, as professional artists, work in all different media.

Reflecting the rich diversity of such a group, the references in "Ancestors" reach to bright, sparkling windows and rusty, barbed wire fence at the same time. It is and the Gift of the Braid celebrates a strong and powerful link to the artist Johnetta Tinker's identity; Takahashi's brilliant representation of the horrific U.S. internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II functions as

one necessary excision in this show. Genocide has literally occurred in the decimation of whole colonized peoples and is then metaphorically perpetuated by history books through the teaching of falsifications and ignorance. Thus, some boxes "re-member" ancestors unknown or ignored by collective,

mediatized illusion; Beverly Singer's piece on the internment of Native Americans on "reservations" utilizes xeroxed photographs of ancestors fenced in by desert dust and tumbleweed. Then there's a less tangible obstacle, portrayed with broken mirrors—shattered and strewn about—in Mai-ly Pham's The Search For An Identity.

In one way or another, most boxes celebrate the survivors and the known as much as those that must be re-created and re-membered. In Homage to the Middle Passage, Carole Byard illustrates the effects of slavery "on all of us." She says, "I thought of the known and the unknown who survived the journey [across the Atlantic), so I thought of the thousands and thousands of people who died in transit, so that's what this box is about." A relatively tall, five-sided wooden construction which hangs on the wall, Homage is really an altar. Byard says that although this piece was created specifically for the show it also falls in line with her other work, "Not everything I do is directly related to slavery, but the materials [of my other work] are similar to this."

Byard and another artist, Clarissa Sligh, are the co-organizers of "Ancestors." Both are members of the ten strong East Coast Committee of Coast to Coast, a group founded by Faith Ringgold. Although the boxes speak for themselves, I wanted to talk with some artists because of Coast to Coast's specifically profound work and because the boxes curiously betray volumes of unspoken thought and experience. According to one woman, Lotus, the mandated medium of boxes meant. "Women weren't making art to sell, but for the pure idea of it...which is a new and refreshing approach in the art world." Her box is a gentle and mysterious altar piece to her paternal grandmother, "an ancestor known and unknown because I

never met her."

Lotus talks about the East Coast Committee as a place extending far beyond the production of artwork: "In the meetings, we talk about ourselves as artists and as women of color. We've developed a dialogue with each other and we want [Coast to Coast] to be an organization supporting all women of color who are artists so they won't have to work in isolation. We've created a forum of strength and support and celebration."

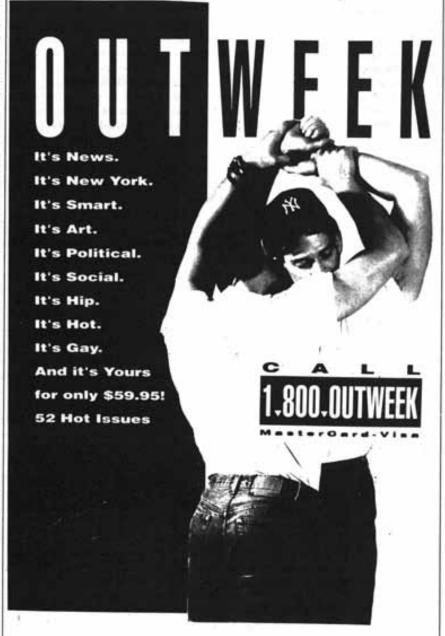
The box idea emerged a year and a half ago, on the heels of the first Coast to Coast show in 1988 of artists books. Sligh says that they settled on the theme and the medium simultaneously because, "We were looking for something that would challenge the artist in terms of their thinking and in terms of their doing something they would not normally do. Same with the book project...something to get people excited about who they were." This is also achieved in a complimentary mode of expression the group considers an "anti-panel." According to Byard, this 25-women performance named "It Matters Who We Are From Coast to Coast," combines "formal art with testimony, movement and other kinds of communication, sounds, body language, the spoken word and instruments."

As with the performance, the boxes involve many languages, many ways of communicating, communing, commenting. Some use the printed word, like Lisa Bradley's "Read it and Weep," which finishes, "...[A]rm ourselves and become intellectually dangerous Yes arm ourselves and be dangerous." Other boxes are totally abstract, and open to a different kind of personal interpretation. One of my favorites is a structured box without sides and two pieces of slit rawhide in the middle with huge screws pulling them to the edge although they remain interlocked like two pairs of legs. The artist Maria Gonzalez says, "The piece is about tension...the interior space is of primary importance. It's more of a showcase than a box because you look into it. You don't open it. It has no top, but it's a three-dimensional frame suspended by, or quite literally, pulled by each

of the corners...So what is in the center is the tension."

Although there are no explicitly lesbian images (whatever that might mean) in the show, lesbian artists are involved. Because of the multiple identities of lesbians of color, different aspects are foregrounded at different times. Coast to Coast, it seems, is a comfortable atmosphere in which an extremely diverse group of women can uphold oppositional political strategies while empowering themselves and their sisters with the tools of varied experience.

Sligh's impressive two-part wall piece, *Ecbo*, welcomes you when you get off the elevator. Although she usually works with photographic images, and there are lots of those in this show, she uses drift wood, shavings and smooth cedar edges in *Ecbo*. Her stated desire for the piece sums up much of the feeling of ancestors." "I wanted to represent eternity," she says, "and I wanted to think in terms of the whole stream of human consciousness. Even before the beginning. I wanted to evoke the spirit of before the beginning." \(\pi\)



WATERS from page 50

individual responses to AIDS. George's film is a day in the life of a PWA taking the drug DHPG, and Hubbard's is a poetic vision of AIDS activists. Both films are clear examples of the personal as political, as Waters sees it, "The AIDS crisis has caused a lot of very strong feeling and one of the most constructive ways of dealing with those feelings is through what we call politics. Films like DHPG and Elegy are not so much concerned with politics as an institutional thing, but they come from very personal points in both filmmakers' lives."

Saturday night's program is an open screening; what Waters hopes will be a "film happening." It's an almost completely uncurated, firstcome, first-shown process, an open invitation for filmmakers not just to screen their work but to also meet each other-an antidote to the often isolating process of making personal cinema. Waters also hopes to bring new filmmakers into the Naked Eye fold, and possibly share future curating responsibilities with them. He worries that "the same person being in the same position for any amount of time kind of adds to a stagnation."

The weekend ends with a night of Water's own work, including the premiere of The Male Gayze, a film inspired by the writings of Andrea Dworkin-one of the original architects of feminist anti-pomography legislation, and a controversial figure herself-and by his own observations of S&M culture. Waters' discussion of the film at a panel at the Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival last fall (and in a letter to OutWeek criticizing an S&M phone-sex ad) have stirred debate in the gay male community more commonly found in lesbian-feminist circles. Waters explains, "Andrea Dworkin is someone who's often criticized by people who haven't read her directly. I did read her work and found it to be very sensitive and inspiring." He recognizes the volatility of such issues in the gay community. "It's something people are very sensitive about. It brings up questions about freedom and intrusion that warrant observation. The film is more about observation than any real criticism [of pornography or S&M]."

Rounding out the weekend with potential political fireworks doesn't seem to phase Waters; it's merely another facet of what Naked Eye Cinema is about. And again, it thwarts attempts to attach a label to the project. Waters takes a simple historical approach to it all, "I think in 30, 40, 50 years from now there'll be a term that will accurately describe the creativity that's going on now."

ROGER from page 51

tasteful had Moore been clearer about the order of events.

It's true he debunks common people as well as public figures— security guards, a woman driven to sell Amway products, a tourist bureau official. But the pathos is often so strong that we feel more pity than disdain. These people have been degraded by powers beyond their control. The most poignant segment is a straightforward interview with a woman who raises rabbits for "pets or meat." She butchers one cute bunny on camera—an action Moore clearly sees metaphorically— and any humor in her situation is quickly squelched.

Moore knew that he was making an entertainment as well as a documentary. He knew that audiences would feel the injustice more deeply if they laughed a lot amidst the litany of calamity. (That's a point some of the more deadly-serious activists among us might consider when defending actions that alienate much of the media audience.) He made his point by making a terrifically enjoyable, provocative film. Beyond that, he couldn't care less what anyone else thinks.

SWEETIE from page 52

as such, it becomes evident that Sweetie must die if Kay is ever going to live. And die she does, in a scene that unexpectedly literalizes (in an appropriately vampire-like exchange) the familial blood tie between the sisters.

That Sweetie has to die in order for Kay to be (hetero-) sexually active again (after the funeral, Kay and Lou sleep together for the first time in a long time) is perhaps the most disturbing, and disappointing aspect of the film. Where it was reassuring that a man was not going to be Kay's savior, it is depressing to realize that that does not mean she can be her own. ▼

A FOREST from page 53

play never has a chance to make an entrance. However, were Grabowski to limit himself to one or two ideas, the production would still strike one as cold and manipulative as long as its purpose were to explicate. The theater is not primarily about ideas or intellectualization; Shakespeare certainly is not.

What we see in this production might be more useful as an essay, or, optimally, if it were to be folded into a production of As You Like It. Then we might see the pastoral and the dangerous and the remarkable reconciliation of the two that only Shakespeare can manage. As the intellectual notions pile up, A Forest in Arden becomes inexplicable; it is unlikely that someone who doesn't know As You Like It could follow it. Take the lectern away and the piece doesn't stand on its own—unlike As You Like It. ▼

RUNNING SCARED from page 54

Sure, entering In Gut's House (their '87 double EP) isn't easy, but then, what is? Ut's cold and unrelenting exasperation oozes out of jagged guitars, dismembered rhythmic patterns and snarling vocals (they have a song titled "Wailhouse" and it's exactly as you suspect it is.) As soon as you think you have a grasp on a melody, they take it by the neck and twist. On the other hand, their latest, and most accessible, album, Griller (Blast First-now that's a name for a label), is tighter and more compact, and some tracks are the closest the band has gotten to straightforward rock-which in their case isn't saying much anyway.

Remember what they said about the Velvet Underground? Not many people heard them at the time, but they all started a band. That's exactly what the next step is: there won't be many of you who'll buy Love Songs for Laughs or Griller, but if it makes you want to go out there and start a band, then the straight white males who rule on music criticism will have plenty of reasons to be scared.



Gay Cable Network

EVERY WEEK ON MANHATTAN CABLE CHANNEL J (23)

THURSDAYS

	Pride & Progress	February 15
10:30 pm	 Gay Week in Review Act-Up GCN Close-Up Sports Lavender Health 	David Dinkins at the Community Center
11:00 pm	The Right Stuff Naming Names All About Women Media Watch Staying Out Around the Country Razor Sharp	Susan B. Anthony Awards at City Hall

SUNDAYS

	Men & Films	February 18
11:30 pm 🔏	Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars	Interview with Rik McShane; Clips from John Summer's Screen Test Magazine: Sweet Meat, Lost Innocence, Just Between Us, Groove Tube
MONDAYS		
100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Be My Guest	February 19
10:00	Subil Burnelson bests a sassi	
10:00 pm	Sybil Bruncheon hosts a panel game show with surprise guests. Secret Passions An original gay soap opera.	Part 2

Gay Cable Network 32 Union Square East, Suite 1217 New York, NY 10003 (212) 477-4220

Celebrating our 8th year

GOING OUT

AN EVENTS CALENDAR

prepared by Rick X with additional information from The Gay & Leabian Switchboard of New York

For more information or referrals, to rap, or to volunteer, call the GLSB daily, noon to midnight, 212-777-1800

Send calendar items to: Rick X, Going Out Box 790 New York, NY 10108

Items must be received by Monday to be included in the following week's issue.



LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER/NY Workshop/Rap Session at the Hetrick-Martin Institute, 401 West St. 5:30-6:30 pm; 222-9794, 245-6366

NYU OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE and METRO NY NAMES PROJECT Viewing of Panels of the (AIDS Memorial) Quilt; Loeb Student Center, 566 LaGuardia Place; 7-10 pm; free (donations accepted); 998-4959 (also FEB 13-15, 10 am - 10 pm; FEB 16, 10 am - 6 pm)

SAGE Workshop for Women: Identity Barriers to Change and Overcome Fears; continued from last Monday. led by Lynne Stevens, CSW; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, SAGE Room; 7:30-9 pm; 741-2247

JUDSON MEMORIAL CHURCH presents Al Carmines and David Vaughan: A Bouquet of Songs for Valentine's Day, featuring "heartwarming renditions of old songs" from the turn of the century through the 1940s, celebrating Judson Memorial's Centennial of service to the community; 55 Washington Square South; 8 pm; \$10; rsvp 777-0033 (also TUES & WED, FEB 13 &



GREY ART GALLERY Poter Hujar Exhibit, 33 Washington Place (thru FEB 24)

INT'L CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY MIDTOWN The Indomitable Spirit, works by 100 artists created in response to the AIDS crisis; 1133 6th Ave (at 43 St); TUES-SUN, 11 am - 8 pm, except THUR till 8 (thru APR 7)

LOWINSKY GALLERY David Hockney paintings and photo collages, and Mariette Pathy Allen dye-transfer portraits of cross-dressers; 584 B'way

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HIV Health Seminar: Insurance Information; 129 W 20 St, 3rd Floor; 7 pm; free; 807-5655, TDD 645-7470 (this and every 2nd TUES)

THE CENTER Invitos Mayor David N. Dinkins to help celebrate Black History Month, in his first scheduled appearance at a leablan and gay community event 208 W 13 St 620-7310 (Editor's note: planned far in advance; no further details were received by presstime)

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH Tuesday Night Video Film Festival: Raisins and Almonds, a *fascinating documentary tracing Yiddish talking pictures from their earliest days in 1927, through their zenith period, 1935-39, and their eventual decline" (English narration): 57 Bethune St (Westbeth Complex, up center courtyard ramp); 8 pm; free: 989-9498

JUDSON MEMORIAL CHURCH presents Al Carmines and David Vaughan: A Bouquet of Songs for Valentine's Day, see FEB 12

NEW YORK THEATRE GROUP Staged Reading: Leonardo, "after a not-so fictional encounter with Machiavelli. Leonardo da Vinci and his young assistants awaken to the realities of Renaissance court politics and ultimate betrayal"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; \$5; 718/624-4680

NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP presents Christopher Grabowski's A Forest in Arden, an "emotionally charged distillation of Shakespeare's As You Like It that "explores the modern gay/lesbian romance, the politics of love, and terror of sexual passion"; at the Perry Street Theatre, 31 Perry St TUES-SAT at 8 pm, SUN at 3 pm & 7 pm; \$20 (\$22 FRI & SAT); 302-7737 (thru FEB 24)

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF LESBIAN AND GAY HISTORY Reception for LAVA (Lesbians About Visual Arts) Group Show, featuring the work of

over twenty women artists, coinciding with The Women's Caucus for Art Conference; at the Center, 208 W 13 St 10 pm to midnight exhibit runs through March 22: 620-7310, 620-8120 (Editor's note: this special reception is for women only)



VALENTINE'S DAY (Health Commissioner Woody Myer's 36th Birthday)

SAGE Volunteer Orientation to find out about volunteer opportunities at SAGE; at the Center, 208 W 13 St. 2nd Floor SAGE Program office; 6 pm; 741-2247

CENTER Orientation, "young or old. new or native, your best introduction to New York's lesbian and gay community; forty groups represented with literaure from 400 more"; presentations, socializing, entertainment; 208 W 13 St; 7 pm; \$3: 620-7310

PATH: POSITIVE APPROACHES TOWARD HEALING Seminar, Staying Focused on Our Goals, led by Peter Hendrickson, Ph.D., for anyone concerned about HIV Infection; Integral Yoga Institute, 227 W 13 St 7:30-9 pm; \$5; 929-0586

CENTER STAGE sees Phantom of the Opera, by Andrew Lloyd Weber; 8 pm; \$70; 620-7310

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's The Wind Beneath My Wings, a new play about two gay men, a comic and an activist, and their conflicting passions; at the Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St (at Bleecker); 8 pm; \$12; 869-3530 (run extended thru FEB 25; WED-FRI at 8 pm, SAT at 7 and 9:30 pm, SUN at 7 pm)

JUDSON MEMORIAL CHURCH presents Al Carmines and David Vaughan: A Bouquet of Songs for Valentine's Day, see FEB 12

NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP presents Christopher Grabowski's A Forest in Arden, see FEB 13

VILLAGE THEATRE COMPANY presents the first New York revival of Larry Kramor's The Normal Heart, directed by Henry Fonte; at The Village Theatre, 133 W 22 St 8 pm; tix 627-8411, press 721-6639 (through March 4; WED-FRI at 8 pm, SAT at 7 & 10 pm, SUN at 7 pm)

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Mon Meeting Men Workshop, to enhance self-confidence and ability to negotiate safer sex with potential partners: at the Center, 208 W 13 St 8-10:30 pm; free; no pre-registration, 807-6655 (TDD 645-7470)

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS Meeting: Relationship Options, with Michael Shernoff of Chelsea Psychotherapy Associates discussing s/m relationships, true love, and living with the realities of the outside world; at the Center, 3rd Floor, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm (doors open at 8); \$5: 727-9878

EAGLE BAR Benefit for God's Love We Deliver, 142 11th Ave (at 21 St): 10 pm; 691-8451 (no movie tonight)

D.T.'s FAT CAT presents Male Stripping, 281 W 12 St (btwn Hudson/ West 4th), midnight, 243-9041

THE CANDLE BAR Valentine's Free Buffet, with "Cupid's Arrow" drink special; 309 Amsterdam Ave (btwn 74/75 Sts); 8 pm - 77; 874-9155

THE TUNNEL BAR Mid-Winter Magic Valentine's Day, with "Red Hots, Red Devils, Cape Cods, lovely music, video and treats"; 116 First Ave (at 7 St); 6 pm - ??; 777-9232



NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE Metro Area Information Meeting, for the Atlanta meeting APR 24-28; at the Center, 208 W 13 St (1st floor, ASL interpreted); 6:30-8:30 pm; 620-7310

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE presents Paula Martinec reading and discussing Voyages Out 1: Lesbian Short Fiction and The One You Call Sister, 681 Washington St (at Charles St); 7 pm; free, but limited seeting; 727-7330

SAGE, BAR ASSOCIATION FOR **HUMAN RIGHTS, LAMBDA LEGAL** DEFENSE & EDUCATION FUND, cosponsor a Forum: Legalizing Gay Marriage: Should We Get Hitched?, with Tom Stoddard and Paula Ettelbrick of Lambda, Bill Rubenstein of ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, Veneita Porter (former Director of AIDS Discr. Issues, NYS Div. of Human Rights), Mexine Wolfe of ACT UP; Mitch Nisonoff of BAHR's Legislation Committee will moderate; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7 pm; SAGE 741-2247, BAHR 882-8532, ACLU 944-9800, Lambda 995-8585

ASIANS AND FRIENDS NY Discussion Group, led by Dan Wasserman, on lifestyles, cultures, relationships; in the West Village; member info 673-2596.

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH Queer Minds: A series of lectures informed by the leeblan, gay and bisexual experience, "Parlah or Parvenue?" Thinking with Foucault and Arendt about Gay and Leablan Politics and Culture, with Melissa Orlie of Princeton; 65 Fifth Ave, Room 30t; 8 pm

MISS. MARLOW directs Jo Jo Todd's Dial S For Sex, an erotic, romantic, "triple-X feminist black comedy for everyone" about serial killers and phone sex, with Veroelca Hart, aka Jane Hamilton; at Dominique's Harmony Burlesque Theatre, 279 Church St (btwn Franklin); 8 pm; \$8 (also SAT at 8 & 10 pm, \$10)

WOW CAFE Sex, Lives, and Rape, created by Susan Young; 59 E 4 St; 460-8067 (also FEB 16, 17, 22, 23, 24)

THE GUNES presents Sidney Morris's The Wind Beneath My Wings, see FEB 14

NEW YORK THEATRE GROUP Staged Reading of a play; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; \$5; 718/624-4680

NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP presents Christopher Grabowski's A Forest in Arden, see FEB 13

VILLAGE THEATRE COMPANY presents the first New York revival of Larry Kramer's The Normal Heart, see FEB 14

LESBIANS AND GAYS AT TEACHERS COLLEGE 3rd Annual Safer Sex Cocktail Party, with valentines and candy hearts, AIDS literature and safe-sex comix, the latest in explicit safe-sex videos for men and women; Room 179 Dodge Hall, 120 St btwn Bway/Amsterdam (#1/#9 to 116 St/Bwsyl; 8:30 pm; free; 865-0361

CHIP DUCKETT opens Thursdays at Quick1, 6 Hubert St (157 Hudson, #1/#9 to Canal or Franklin St); club 975-2442



NYU OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE and METRO NY NAMES PROJECT Viewing of Panels of the (AIDS Memorial) Quilt see FEB 12

THIRD NATIONAL BLACK GAY AND LESBIAN LEADERSHIP CONFER-ENCE Meets in Atlanta, through FEB 19; info 213/666-5495, travel 800/747-7026, Hyatt Regency 800/228-9000

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF LESBIAN AND GAY HISTORY Final Day of A Hundred Legends, exhibition of artwork in various media by people with AIDS from across the country; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 620-7310

IDENTITY HOUSE Rap Group: Friends or Lovers?; 544 6th Ave (btwn 14/15 Sts); 6:30-8:30 pm; 243-8181

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER/NY Poetry Evening, featuring Mark-Guy Foster, Carlos Segura, David Frechette, and Bruce Neil, from the Other Countries Writers Collective, celebrating Black His/Herstory Month; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; free; 245-6366, 222-9794

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT Discussion: Bonding and Union, on love, courage, time, effort, commitment, honesty, compatability, and other components of a successful relationship; at the Center, in the Charles Angel/People of Color Room, 208 W 13 St 8 pm; 620-7310

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DIXON PLACE presents Jim Provenzaso, 37 East First St, 8 pm, \$8 (Editor's note: I have no idea what this is, but there was a humpy guy on the invite.)

WOW CAFE Sex, Lives, and Rape, see FEB 15

BODY POSITIVE Valentine's Day Dance, with fun, music, refreshments, for HIV Positives and friends; Rutger's Church, 236 W 73 St (off Bway); 9 pm - midnight; \$10 (less if); info 721-1346 NAKED EYE CINEMA presents An Anthology of Films; including Carl George's DHPG Mon Amour and Miss Kitt- Cats! Cats! Cats! Philly's I, A Goddess Part II, The Golden Bird, Kembra Pfahler's Straight Jackie, Jim Hubbard's Elegy in the Streets, Peter Cramer's Premier, Jettrey Arsenauk's Ode to Jode at the Saint Marks Cinems, Mike Kuchar's Splatter Movie, Todd Verow's V Is For Violet, at Anthology Film Archives, 32-34 2nd Ave (enter on 2nd St); 10:30 pm; \$5; 529-8815 (other programs SAT & SUN, FEB 17 & 18)

SATURDAY

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Workshop: Keep It Upl, to "reaffirm the importance of safer sex, and feel confident about saying yes, whether you're into casual sex or serious deting, and no matter what your HIV status is"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, noon - 5 pm; free; register 806-6655, TDD 645-7470

SAGE Carnival in Rie Social, with live music, food, dencing, refreshments; at the Gay Synagogue, 57 Bethune St (at West St); 1-5 pm; \$8 advance/\$10 door; 741-2247

BORICUA GAY & LESBIAN FORUM Poetry Reading, commemorating the birthday of the late Puerto Rican poet Julia de Burgos; "read from your own work or hers," refreshments; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7-9 pm; \$4: 293-0833

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MISS. MARLOW directs Jo Jo Todd's Dial S For Sax, see FEB 15

WOW CAFE Sax, Lives, and Rape, see FEB 15

PEOPLE'S VOICE CAFE presents singer Marcle Silvestro and poet Karen Ethelsdatter; 133 W 4 St, in Wash. Sq. Church Parlor; 8 pm sharp (doors open 7:30); \$8 or TDF; info 718/426-2183, club 212/777-2528

ASIANS AND FRIENDS NY 3rd Saturday Social/Valentine's Day Dance; at the Center, 3rd Floor, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm to midnight; \$5 members/\$8 non-members; member info 673-2596 GIRTH AND MIRTH Sweetheart Party at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm; \$10; 620-7310

COLUMBIA PEP BOYS Same But Different Dance, tonight and every third Saturday, for gay men and lesbians and their friends; DJ Karin Ward; Earl Hall, 118 St & B'way (#1/#9 train); 10 pm - 3 am; \$5; 629-1989

SPECTRUM presents Laura Branigen, singing Gloria; 802 64th Street, Brooklyn (N Train to 8th Ave stop, Bay Ridge); 718/238-8213

NAKED EYE CINEMA presents A Film Happening, in which super 8 and 16M films, as well as video tapes, may be dropped off between 3-5 pm, for an "almost totally uncurated" Cinematheque with "videobar/coffee-klatch" beginning at 10:30 pm; 20-minute maximunlength, preferably shorter; at Amthology Film Archives, 32-34 2nd Ave (enter on 2nd St); \$5; 529-8815 (see also SUN, FEB 18)

SUNDAY

SAGE Women's Sunday Drop-le, at the Center, 208 W 13 St, SAGE Room, 2-5 pm, all welcome, 741-2247

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE presents Cheryl Clarke reading and discussing Humid Pitch, narrative poetry; 681 Washington St (at Charles St); 3 pm; free, but limited seating; 727-7330

NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP presents Christopher Grabowski's A Forest in Arden, see FEB 13

DANCE IV Tee Dance, a benefit for Pride Day's Dance IV on June 24; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 4-8 pm; \$7; 620-7310

SAGE Eating Awareness Training, "a free introductory seminar where you can become aware of specific techniques you can use for a lifetime"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 4-6 pm; register with Phillip, 741-2247

D.T.'s FAT CAT presents a Benefit for New York in '34, the effort to bring the next Gay Games here; 281 W 12 St; 6 pm - 77; \$2 donation; 243-9041

WNET-TV/13 Moyers: A World of Ideas - The Science of Hope with Jones Salk, who discusses AIDS research; 6:30-7 pm (repeats THU, FEB 22, 11:30 pm)

THE GUNES presents Sidney Morris's The Wind Beneath My Wings, see FEB 14

DANCING OUT

Monday

Private Eyes (Kool Komrads; male strippers) 12 W 21 St, info 242-5646, club 206-7772

Tuesday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves) 245-8925

*Love Machine at Underground, 860 Bway, near 17th St; 254-4005

Wednesday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves) 245-8925

Private Eyes (Jeffrey Sanker & Dallas's Club Bad) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves, 206-7772

 Pyramid (Dean Johnson's Rock & Roll Fag Bar) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th/7th Streets, 420-1590

Silver Lining (2-4-1 drink) 175 Cherry La., Floral Pk, LI, 516/354-9641
Spectrum (free admission) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn, 718/238-8213

Stutz (2-4-1 drinks) 202 Westchester Ave, Wh. Plns., 914/761-3100
Twenty/Twenty (Kool Komrads, gay men after 10 pm) 20 W 20 St, info 242-5646, club 727-8841

Thursday

*Boybar (has a new wave drag show) 15 1/2 St Marks Place, btwn 2nd/3rd Aves, 674-7959

*Copacebane (last Thu. of the month has S. Bartsch party) 10 E 60 St, at Fifth Ave, 755-6010

*Pyramid 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th/7th Streets, 420-1590

*Quick! (Chip Duckett Thursdays start Feb. 15) 6 Hubert St, 925-2442

Spectrum (free admission all night, 2-4-1 drinks) 802 64th St © 8th

Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn, 718/238-8213

Friday

*Boybar 15 1/2 St Marks Pl., btwn 2nd/3rd Aves, 674-7959

*Carmelita's (Chip Duckett's Boy+Boy & Girl+Girl) 150 E 14 St, club 673-9015

Columbia Dances (1st Friday of every month) 116th St & Bway, 854-3574 days

Private Eyes (preppies and young professionals) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves, 206-7772

Spectrum (male and female strippers) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn, 718/238-8213

Saturday

Barefoot Boogie (smoke & alcohol free) 434 6th Ave (btwn 9/10 Sts); 832-6759

*Boyber 15 1/2 St Marks Place, btwn 2nd/3rd Aves, 674-7959
The Center Dances (2nd and 4th Saturdays) 208 W 13 St, btwn 7th/8th Aves, 620-7310

Girth and Mirth Club at the Center (heavy men & their admirers, 3rd Saturdays) 208 W 13 St, 620-7310

Pep Boys at Columbia (3rd Saturdays, through June 16) 116 & B'way, 10 pm - 3 am; info 629-1989

Private Eyes (Jeffrey Sanker & Dallas's Club Bad) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves, 206-7772

Saint At Large (alternate Sats discontinued till further notice; White Party 2/18) 674-8541

Sound Factory (Acid House, no alcohol, doors open midnight) 530 W 27 St (btwn 10th/11th Aves), 643-0728

Spectrum (guest performer night) 802 64th St, Bklyn., 718/238-8213

Sunday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

*Mars (Chip Duckett's Mars Needs Men night) Westside Highway and 13th St, 691-6262 *Pyramid (Hapi Phace and Drag + Variety Show) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6/7 Streets, 420-1590

Hot Rod (Kool Komrads' Sinful Sundays, open 8 pm; Father Bruce's friend, Kevin Kite, on the door) 28 St at 11th Ave, info 242-5646

 Morrissey (Panty Girdles night; TVs, club kids, mixed "alternate" crowd) 11th Ave at 26 St, 633-0701

Spectrum (show; free admission 9-10 pm) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, Bklyn, 718/238-8213

Every Night (or almost)

Grand Central (Rockville Centre, LI, closed Mon & Tues) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI, 516/536-4800

Monster (West Village) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq., 924-3557

OUT DANCING for Women

NOTE: Party events are subject to change. Always call first to confirm.

Tuesday

Hatfield's 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, 718/261-8484

Wednesday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516 Twenty/Twenty (Shescape After Work, 5-10 pm) 20 W 20 St (btwn 5tt/6th Aves), info 645-6479, club 727-8841

Thursday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Friday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516 Cheeks 2000 Long Beach Road, Island Park, LI, 516/431-5700 Roxy (Shescape party) 515 W 18 St, btwn 10th/11th Aves; info 645-6479, club 645-5156

Visions 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside, info 718/846-7131 , club 718/899-9031

Saturday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516
The Center (Women & Friends 1st Saturdays, Feb. thru May) 208 W
13 St, 620-7310

Silver Lining 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park, LI, 516/354-9641
Starz 836 Grand Boulevard, Deer Park, LI, 516/242-3857
Twenty/Twenty (Shescape party) 20 West 20 Street (btwn 5th/6th Aves), info 645-6479, club 727-8841

Sunday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516 Cave Canem (Sandwich Sister Sundays) 24 1st Ave at 1st St, 529-9665

Every Night (or almost)

Cubby Hole 438 Hudson St @ Morton St, 243-9079

Duchess II Sheridan Sq. & 7th Ave South, 242-1408

Spectrum (closed Mon & Tues; good mix of men and women, see left side for different nights) 802 64th St, Bklyn., 718/238-8213

All phone numbers are area code 212, unless otherwise noted.

" = TVs welcome.

Send corrections/additions to: Rick X, P.O. Box 790, New York, NY 10108

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OUTWEEK BAR GUIDE

WEST SIDE

Bike Stop West, 230 W. 75th St., 874-9014, Neighborhood bar, occasional entertainment.

Candle Bar, 309 Amsterdam Ave., 874-9155 Friendly leather/western bar.

Cat's, 730 8th Ave., 221-7559, Older men, younger guys

Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St., 757-0788, Sing-along piano ber and cabaret.

Jason's, 23 PLOSED

Sally's Hideaway, 264 W. 43 St., 221-9152

Town & Country, 9th Ave at 46th St., 307-1503

Trix, 246 W. 48 St. (bet. Bdwy & 8th Ave), 664-8331, Cash and carry.

The Works, 428 Columbus Ave (at 81st), 799-7365, Cruisy west side crowd.

EAST SIDE

Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944, Sing-along piano bar.

G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752, Piano bar, mature crowd.

Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714, Neighborhood restaurant and bar.

Regent East, 204 E. 58th St., 355-9465

Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807, Friendly guys, checkbook romance.

South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave., 684-8376

Star Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710

EAST VILLAGE

The Bar, 68 2nd Ave. (at 4th St.), 674-9714, East Villagers and ACT UPers.

Boy Bar, 15 St. Mark's Pl., 674-7959, Dancing / Drag shows.

The Pyramid, 101 Avenue A, 420-1590, Dancing / Drag shows.

Tunnel Bar, 116 1st Ave (7th St.), 777-9232 W. Village crowd in the E. Village.

WEST VILLAGE

The Annex (to Cellblock 28), 673 Hudson St. (bet. 13th & 14th), 627-1140, J/O Club.

Badlands, Christopher & West St., 741-9236, Cruisy waterfront bar.

Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684, Funky dive and juke joint.

Cellblock 28, 28 9th Ave, 733-3144, J/O club.

The Cubbyhole, 438 Hudson (Morton St), 243-9079, Neighborhood bar for gay women & men.

D.T.'s Fat Cat, 281 W. 12th St., 243-9041, Piano bar. Mixed M/F.

Duchess II, 70 Grove St (7th Ave.), 242-1408, Women.

J's, 675 Hudson St., 242-9292, J/O club.

Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672, Serving Coors, Coors Lite, & Coors Draft.

Keller's, 384 West St. (at Christopher), 243-1907, Friendly neighborhood crowd.

Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322, Piano bar.

The Locker Room, 400 W. 14th St. (9th Ave), 459-4299, J/O club.

Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St. (7th Ave), 243-9323, Sing-along piano bar.

The Monster, 80 Grove St. (7th Ave.), 924-3558, Piano bar & disco/dancing.

Nimbus 22, 22 7th Aven SEL 91-4826, Dancing, pinball, pool, LEOSE 191-4826, Dancing

Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204, Younger crowd.

Ramrod, 185 Christopher St. Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830.

Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340.

Ty's, 114 Christopher,741-9641, Cruisy neighborhood bar.

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Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787, Huge video bar.

CHELSEA

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The Break, 232 8th Ave. (22nd St.), 627-0072.

Chelsea Transfer, 131 8th Ave. (bet. 16th & 17th), 929-7183, Neighborhood English pub.

Eagle's Nest, 142 11th Ave (21st St.), 691-8451, Leather / Levi's.

Private Eyes, 12 W. 21st St. (bet. 5th & 6th), 206-7770, Dancing, Video Club.

Rawhide, 212 8th Ave., (21st St.), Leather / Levi's.

Spike, 120 11th Ave., 243-9688, Leather & Uniforms.

Tracks, 19th St. 10SED ncing.

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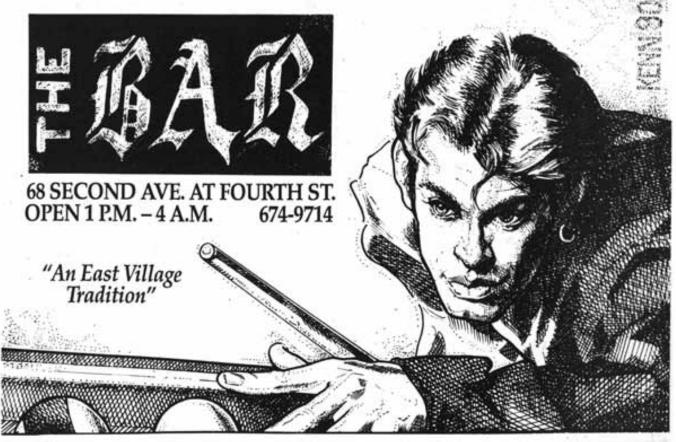
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"Legalizing Gay Marriage: Should We Get Hitched?" An open forum featuring noted gay/lesbian leaders Thursday, Feb. 15th 7:00 p.m. The Center 208 W. 13th St. For info call SAGE: (212) 741-2247



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Community Directory

AIDS CENTER OF QUEENS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES + EDUCATION + BUDDIES COUNSELING . SUPPORT GROUPS Volunteer Opportunities (718) 896-2500(voice) (718) 896-2985(TDD)

ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) 496A Hudson Street, Suits 64 NYC 10014 (212) 989 -1114

A diverse, non-pertisen group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS orisis. Gen. meetings Mon. nights 7:30, at the Community Center 208 W.13th.

ALDEC/APLN-NY

ALDELY, AFFER AND AGENCY

(Asian Leabians of the East Coast/
Asian Pacific Leabian Network-New York)

We are a political, social and supportive network of Asian Pacific leabians. Planning meetings on the 1st Sunday and social events on the last Friday of each month. Call (212) 517-5596 for more information.

ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services) for Dutchess, Orange, Putnem, Rockland, Sullivan, Uleter and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program. 214 Central Ave. White Plains, NY 10006 (814) 893-0005

838 Broadway Newburgh, NY 12250 (814) 882-8005

AIDS line (914) 983-0807

ATR (AIDS TREATMENT REGISTRY, INC.) Publishes a bi-monthly Directory of clinical trials of experimental AIDS/HIV treatments in NY/NJ, and has advantional materials/seminars for trial participants. ATR also advocates for improvements in the trial system. P.O. Box 30234, NY, NY 1011-0102. (212) 256-4196. Publications free/donation requested.

BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Lawyers Referral Service for the Leeblan and Gay Community Full Range of Legal Services (212) 459-4873

BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS Free Welk-in Legal Clinic. Tuesday 6-8 pm Leebian & Gay Community Centr. Ground Floor

BIDS (BISEXUAL DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION GROUP)
Share S/M experiences and fantasies with others in

a positive, non-judgemental etmosphere. First Sun-day of the month, 4-45pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexuel Network.

BIWAYS NEW YORK

Monthly social events for the Bisexual community and friends. Call NYABN for details of upcoming events. (718) 853-8245

BIPAC (BISEXUAL POLITICAL

ACTION COMMITTEE)
Political action on issues of importance to the Bisex-uel/Leeblan/Bay community. Monthly meeting/potuck held 8:00pm on fourth Thursday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. (718) 853-8245

BISEXUAL YOUTH

Informal social & support group for Bisexual kide/youth. Monthly meeting/potiuck lunch held 1:00pm on fourth Sunday of the month at members homes. Call NY ABN for this month's location. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BLUS-BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD

Social, political and support networking group for women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Fridays of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 6:30-8pm. For more info cell Lise at (212) 829-9617.

BODY POSITIVE

If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, reference, social activities and up-to-date national monthly, THE BODY POSITIVE (\$15/year). (212) 633-1782.

2095 Broadway, Suita 306, NYC, NY 10023

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT

Spiritual support and sharing in a gaylieablan affir-mative group. West-Park Presbyterian Church 165 West 86th Street Wed: worship service 6:30 pm, program 7:30. Marsha (212) 304-4373 Charlie (212) 891-7118.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT 206 West 13th Street, NYC, New York 10011 For Appointments and Information (212) 675-3559 (TTY/Voice) PROVIDING CARING, SENSITIVE AND LOW COST HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

PWAs, PWARCs & their physicians taking the initiative to seek promising intervention against AIDS in a resp. manner. For more info or to volunteer please call (212) 481-1050.

LIST YOUR ORGANIZATION **OUTWEEK'S** COMMUNITY DIRECTORY, CALL (212) 337-1223 FOR INFORMATION.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH

NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune Street Friday at 8:30pm 57 Bethune For info. call: (212) 929-9498.

DIGNITY/BIG APPLE

A community of Leablen and Gay Catholics, Activities include Liturgies and socials every Sat., 8:00 pm, at the Center, 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Cell (212) 818-1308.

DIGNITY NEW YORK

lesbian and gay Catholics and friends AIDS Ministry, Spiritual Development. The Cathedral Project. Worship Services & Social-Sun, Eves, 7:30pm-St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th Street © Waverly-675-2179

Education in a Disabled Gay Environment For the physically disabled Leablen and Gay Community. (212) 989-1821 Community. (212) 989-1821 P.O. Bax 305 Village Station, New York, NY 10014

FEMME SUPPORT GROUP

For isoblans who self identify as Femme. For info and meeting times call Lise at (212) 829-9617. No men please.

A running club for leablen and gay athletes
of all abilities. Fun Runs of 1-6 miles held every Set. at
10cm and Weds. at 7pm in Central Park
and every Tues. at 7pm in Prospect Park.
For information: call (212) 724-6700.

THE FUND FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

National Gay and Leebian Crisis Line "AIDS 800"---1-800-SOS-GAYS Educational Resource Center; Poeltive Images Media Center; NY State Arts Program 666 B'wey Suits 410 NYC, NY 10012 (212) 529-1600

> THE GAY AFRICAN AMERICANS OF WESTCHESTER(The QAA)

is a community based support group formed in Westchester County, Various activities are planned for the coming months. Please call 914-378-0727 for more info.

Gay & Leebian Alliance Against Defamation 80 Verick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 906-1700 GLAAD combets homophobie in the medie and else-where by promoting visibility of the leablan and gay community and organizing graseroots response to anti-gay bigotry.

GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH CONCERNS

An office of the NYC Dept. of Health, provides link-ages betwn NYC Health & Human Svos, and the Lesbian & Gay community, focusing in ALL health concerns; resource information for health services consumers and providers. 125 Worth Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 568-4995.

GAY & LESBIAN PSYCHOTHERAPY

Sliding scale fees . Insurance accepted. Institute for Human Identity. (212) 799-9432

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS

Dedicated to safe and responsible S/M since 1981.

Open meetings w/programs on S/M techniques, lifestyle issues, political and social concerns. Also special events, speakers bureau, workshops, demos, affinity groups, newsletter, more. GMSMA -Dept. 0, 496A Hudson Street, Suits D23, NYC 10014. (212) 727-9878.

GMAD(GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousnessraising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community, GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanio/Latino men of color. Meetings are hald, weekly, on Fridays. For more information, call 718-802-0182.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE FOR INFORMATION ON SAFER SEX AND HIV-RELAT-ED HEALTH SERVICES, AND FOR INFORMATION ON ONE-TIME, WALK-IN AIDS COUNSELING SERVICES 212-407-6656

212-645-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired) Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Set 12:00 to 3:00

HEAL (Health Education AIDS Lisison)

Weekly info, and support group for treatments for AIDS which do not compromise the immune system further, including alternative and holistic approaches. Wed Som. 206 W. 13th St. (212)674-HOPE.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

for leablen and gay youth. Counseling, drop-in center (M-F, 3-8pm), rap groups, Hervey Milk High School, AIDS and safer sex information, referrals, professional education. (212) 633-8920(voice) (212) 633-8926 TTY for de

HISPANIC UNITED GAYS & LESBIANS

Educational services, political action, counseling and social activities in Spanish and English by and for the Latino Leabien and Gay Community.

General meetings 8:00 pm 4th Thursday of every month at 208 West 13th Street.

Cell (212) 691-4181
or write H.U.G.L. P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station,

New York, NY 10019.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE
AND EDUCATION FUND

Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for leabians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$35 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdon, Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 995-9585

LAVA (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)

Call for alides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to : Miriam Fougers 118 Fort Greens Place

118 Fort Greens Place Brooklyn, NY 11217.

THE LESBIAN AND GAY BIG APPLE CORPS
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with us. Symphonic, Marching, Jazz, Dixieland, Rock, Fluts Ensembles and Woodwinds. 123 West 44th St. Suits 121. New York, NY 10036 (212) 859-2922.

> LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

208 West 13th Street New York, NY 10011
(212) 820-7310 Bam-11pm everyday.

A place for community organizing and networking, social services, cultural programs, and social events aponeored by the Center and more than 150 community organizations.

LESBIAN AND GAY LABOR NETWORK

An organization of Leabiens and Gays who are active in their labor unions working on domestic partnership benefits and AIDS issues. For more information call (212)923-6960. LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT of the American Civil Liberties Union KNOW YOUR BIGHTS / WE'RE EXPANDING THEM (212) 944-9800, ext. 545

LESBIANS AND GAYS OF FLATBUSH

Brooklyn's social organization for both gay men and leablans. P.O. Box 106, Midwood Station Brooklyn, NY 11230 • (718) 859-9437

LONG ISLAND ACT-UP

P.O. Box 291, New Hyde Park, NY 11040 Support us for change on Long Island. (516)338-4662 (516) 997-5238 Nassau (516) 928-5530 Suffolk

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER NY

A multi-racial group of gay men against recism. Meetings every Friday night at 7:45 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th Street. For more info, call: (212) 245-6366 or (212) 222-6794.

METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)

Our 200 member leablen and gay tennis club includes players from beginning to tournament level. Monthly tennis parties. Winter indoor league, Come play with ual For information: MTG, POB 2135, New York, NY 10025. (212) 882-0865.

MOCA (Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program.)
Provides safer sax and AIDS education information
to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of peer-support groups for gay and bisexual
Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City.
303 Ninth Ave, New York, Ny 10001
or call (212) 239-1796.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for leabians and gay men. Membership is \$30'year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing end direct action.

NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Weshington, DC 20008.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

NYACN is the community's largest gay and leabian professional group, welcoming all in communications—and their friends. Monthly meetings, 3rd Wed &30pm at the Community Center, Members' newsletter, job hotline, annual directory. Phone (212) 517-0380 for more info. Mention OutWeek for one free newsletter.

N.Y. WOMEN'S SOFTBALL GUILD

For experienced, serious Softball Players, Coaches and Managers. We play mod/fast pitch weekends in Manhattan and Queens. Try-outs begin Feb. 11 thru April- or until filled. (212) 255-1379 Janet.

NINTH STREET CENTER

Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homoexxual lifestyle is a rational, desirable choice for individuals dissatiated with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically - focused rap groups, Tues., Sat., 8 to 10 pm. peer counselling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info cell (212) 228-5153.

NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)

Dedicated to saxual freedom and especially interested in gay intergenerational relationships. Monthly Bulletin and regular chapter meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Yearly membership is \$20, write NAMBLA. PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call (212) 807-8578 for information. **NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES**

Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV.
THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS. Call Jack Godby (212) 337-6747

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT

Counseling, advocery, and information for survivors of anti-gay and anti-leablan violence, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other types of victimization.

All services free and confidential.

24 hour hotine (212) 807-0197

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION

(212) 532-0290'1-800-828-3280'Hotline (212) 532-0568 Monday thru Friday 10am-8pm Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWAro's.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP

Underground buyer's club importing not-yet-approved medications and nutritional supplements. 31 West 26th St. 4th Floor (212) 532-0280

PRIDE FOCUS GROUP

Topical discussions on issues of interest to the community in a congenial stressphere, followed by an informal dinner at a friendly local restaurant. Every Sunday, 3:00 - 4:30pm at the Community Center 206 W. 13 Street, NYC. Part of the New York Area Bissousi Network.

SAGE (Senier Action in a Gay Environment)
Social Service Agency, providing care, activities, &
educational services for gay & leabins senior citizens.
Also serves over 180 homebound seniors & older PWA's.
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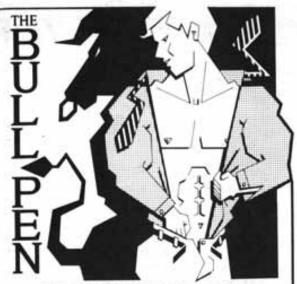
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Athletic bodywork from boyish 145# 5'9"
27 yo with very muscular build and a nice tan line. Clean cut and friendly.
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Relaxing, experienced. Safe & satisfying. STAN (212) 243-5519.

SENSUOUS BODY RUB

By tall, goodlooking 25 year old. In/out 24 hours. Phillip. (212) 645-9107

INDULGE YOUR BODY



HAVE IT MASSAGED (212) 932-1496

MASSAGE

RUBDOWN WITH MUSCLE

1 1/2 hr deep Swedish rub by sexy guy. Reasonable. In/out. Marc (212) 864-0091.

SENSUAL MASSAGE

No phone sex No calls 12am-8am DEREK (212) 727-2842

SWIM COACH

6"2", 185 lb, gives great rubdown CHRIS (212)427-3210

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BOY NEXT DOOR

Companionship and more from tall, inshape attractive masculine bottom. Open and affectionate. 21. FR/A or P. Discreet and safe. MIKE (212) 239-7345.

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22, bl, blue, juicy & big, 3-somes too! Upper East Side Nick (212) 722-3320.

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28-years-old, uncut, Latin. Tony 932-1496

MODELS/ESCORTS

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You can reach me by calling a digital
pager. Use a touch tone phone, put your

in at the sound of the beep & press #.
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MODELS/ESCORTS

KYL

Very handsome, well-built, 61*, 200 lbs. Masculine/German hung thick (212) 889-2784.

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WOMEN'S PERSONALS

BIF SEEKS SLAVE to make coffee for me on clinic defense mornings. Everything else negotiable. I get off on silk, leather, lace, whips, chains, public scenes, private scenes in public places, leafletting and well-worded placards. Include your doubts in your letter. Absolutely no tobacco/perfume users. P.O. Box 497, Times Square Station, NY, NY 10108.

WANTED: GWF. FEMME.

19-25, under 5'2", mature, intelligent, sense of humor, lots of selfrespect. I'm "softbutch", GWF, 28, 5'4", long-haired rocker. My romantic fireworks kick in when most other relationships have died. Responsibility and commitment. No drugs or unappreciative primadonnas. Write: P.O. Box 3908, NY, NY 10185

GF, 20, CROPPED HAIR,

vegan w/pierced nose. Skateboard bean, animal lib, artistic, athletic, seeking similar beans for correspondence. friendship, etc. Reply P.O. Box 20028, c/o AWOL, Thompkins Sq. Station, NY, NY 10009 Pix/# if possible.

GF ANARCHIST

22, vegan semi-musician, politically active. Into music (ska, punk, new music), animal rights, art, literature, films, etc. Seeking like minded "beans" (non-smoker pref.) anyone whose life doesn't revolve around Madonna, club comps, or "Pump Up the Jam". Please write, P.O. Box 20028 c/o Patty, Tompkins Square Station, NY, NY 10009. Photo /phone if possible.

LAUREN-WOW! **FIVE YEARS!!**

Imagine that we're lucky enough to love each other in a time when I can tell you how I feel about you in a newspaper adl I will always love you! You are the only woman in my life. Happy Anniversary, you gorgeous thing! All my love, Kimberly.

LONELY EX-JEHO-**VAH'S WITNESSES**

lesbian searching for other Ex -JW lesbians fellowship and companions needed.

There must be other women like me either disfellowshipped or pioneering. I would like to talk and share my feelings with understanding ears. Please write me soon. Outweek Box 1861

WORKING THE **CLASSIFIEDS**

Personals-does this stuff really work? Am I really going to find a tall, Vivacious, sensous woman with smarts, wit, and daring, bown 28-35, selfsufficient, and motivated enough to love, cares, dance, dine, discourse (Spanish speaking a plus) and do the New York town from off-off Broadway to warm nites with our VCR's. Let's try it! I'm game. Write Outweek Box 1872

LIGHTHEARTED LESBIAN

A snesitive romantic irreverent book thief is looking for a woman comfortable in her skin and sexuality with a feminist sensibility. Outrageous and articulate? Write to me at Outweek Box 2104

MAKE ME SCREAM! GF, Womanist, looking for a good time. Wants quiet romantic dinners followed by Hot Torrid non-stop sex. Hot oil massages, whipped cream, and xtra cold ice are only the beginning. I expect a lot and am more than willing to reciprocate. If you want to join me in my safe sexual adventures write Outweek Box 1874

BIF SEEKS SLAVE to make coffee for me on clinic defense mornings. Everything else negotiable. I get off on silk, leather, lace, whips, chains, public scenes, private scenes in public places, leafletting and well-worded placards. Include your doubts in your letter. Absolutely no tobacco/perfume users. P.O. Box 497. Times Square Station, NY, NY 10108.

MOVING TO PHILLY 27 yr-old Lesbian

Feminist moving to Philly to attend University in January wants friends. Interested in politics, and hanging out. Write C. Jones, 147 W, 42 Street, Room 603, New York, NY 10036.

SMALL BUT VERY BIG

I may be small in size but I'm very big on sharing the best of

New York with a tall, 30ish, athletic full figured woman who can dance, romance, and keep up with my energetic spontaneous pace. Am into community, photography, travel, music and letting go ... Will you come with me? Write Outweek Box 1879

THAT CRAZY REDHEAD-LUCY

think-a-like...searching for her Ethel Mertz partner-in-crime, No Mrs. Trumbulls need applyl

IN SEARCH OF THE UNEXPECTED

GF, in search of the unexpected. Perfectly proportioned and equally irreverant, We'd make the powerhouse duo of this cold. dark city. The question is who gets wet faster? Outweek Box

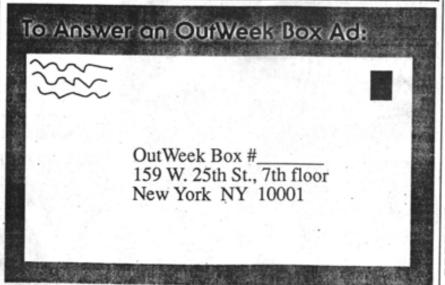
TURN ME OUT!

I'm alive, sparkling and ready, if the right buttons are pushed. Full-figured, tailored and energetice. 30ish. bilingual, dread locked Lesbian seeks tall, warm, provacative, philosophical, non-role playing woman for good cuisine, dramatic theater/Film, dancing and very good unhibited sex. No S/M or role types. Write Outweek Box 1880

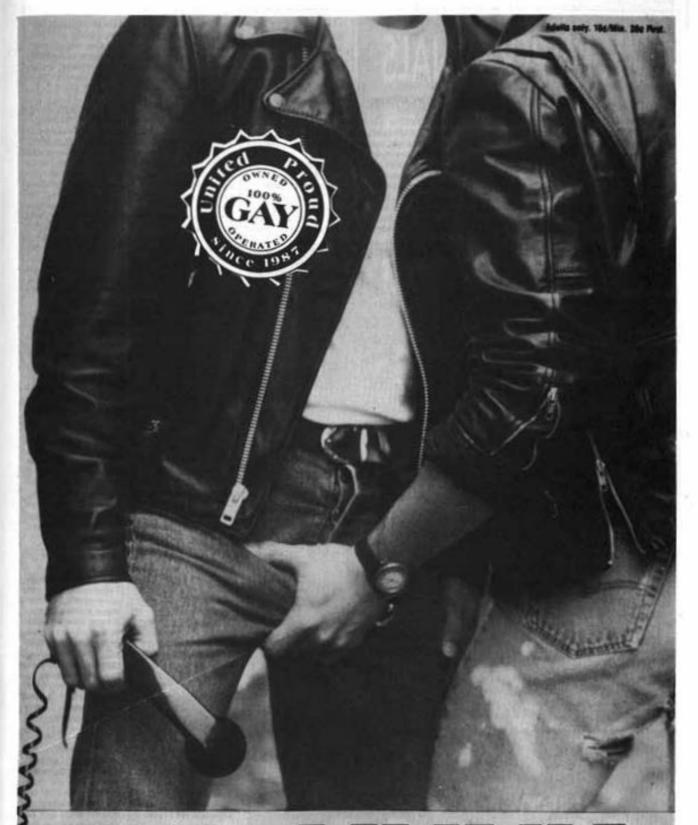
I'M COMING OUT!

I'm seeking a sensitive woman to share the excitement, anxiety and eruption with! I'm 30, attractive, sensitive, intelligent and a humorous (except when I'm writing personal ads) woman. Some of my favorite things are all sports, LET'S GO METS. good movies, I can watch a Meryl Streep movie anytime anyplace, scratching my cat's neck, a blazing campfire, and good old rock 'n' roll, If you're a GF with similar or complementing interests, please write P.O. Box 7517 Rego Park, NY 11374.

MEN'S PERSONALS BEGIN ON PAGE 88



550·HUNK



MEN'S PERSONALS

DISILLUSIONED BUT HOPEFULI

Aren't there others who still believe in the importance of fundamental values and who desire a long-lasting relationship between two loving caring men? I'm GWM, 35, 1456, 5'8', intelli-

gent, fun, attractive and sincere. If you are a GWM, age 18-40 and share similar values. Pls send ph/ph to Box 1171, Cooper Station, NY, NY 10003.

HIV + P/WARC GWM 26 6'2" 200 lbs. bl/bl hot horny hung very attractive intelligent professional seeks safe sex buddy for great uncomplicated sex. Muscular or stocky men needed for afternoon sex sessions. No fats, fems or hustlers. Reply to: P.O. Box 83, 496A Hudson Street, NY, NY 10014.

BODYBUILDER

GWM 37, 190#, brown hair and eyes, 5"11". I'm looking for a GM with muscles to spare. A take charge type of man, for dating, romance, safe sex, possible relationship. Reply with current photo, letter, tel.# to LTS 20053, NYC 10011-9993.

MUSCULAR JOCK DADDY

BB Trainer and promasseur, Br/Br, 40's, 6', 185, wc, Bi, Scand, College Grad, nonsmoker, travel, sports, arts. Seeks young jock bottom. Box 1705, 2109 B'way NYC, 10023. Warm, friendly nice guy.

ATTRACTIVE

Prof'l GWM, 26, 175, 6°2°. Dark blond with beard and stache. Looking for Mr. Tall: 5'10" or above, Dark: brown to black hair. stache a plus, Handsome: self-explanatory. Prospective GWM should be 25-40. prof'l, stable, fit, masculine and enjoy the arts and sensual safe sex. Letter, phone and photo appreciated. Outweek Box 2102

GWM, 26, 5'8", 140, BIG

seeks younger strt, bi, or gay male to entertain, spoil and help through school. I'm cute and fun to be with and I care about you. You don't need to write your life story or send a photo. Serious replies answered with photo. Serious replies answered with photo. Box 1365, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

NAIVE CYNIC/ ADULT KID

GWM, 23, 6'2" with multi-faceted personality seeks fascinating GM, 20-30, to enjoy all sides. Button-down professional by day, bon vivant by night; beach burn in summer, playgoer in winter. I seek a man to compilment my varied tastes with his own style, If you want a strong, steady relationship that won't grow old, send your ph/ph to Outweek Box 2105

COCK CONTEST!

B/W gay couple late 20's want to know who has the biggest or most goodlooking cock around! Prizes include an unforgettable fun-filled evening. Do you have that special dick? Prove it! Send photo to Box 697 Contest, Midwood, NY 11230.

WRESTLER/BB Dumb blond, 6'3", 190, 32, seeks affectionate safe sex. Open to love, clean-shaven,

healthy. Done it all.

Like shorter, gym bodied, friendly gay men. Please no priests, politicians or smokers. Photo/phone, Doug, 70A Greenwich Ave. #248, NY 10011.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL

living in Westchester and working in NYC, tired of the bars and looking for someone who is honest and sincere. I am a mature 25, interested in someone who enjoys living life to its fullest. If you are searching for someone to share the excitement of life with, look no further. You may have found hlm. P.O. Box 163, White Plains, NY 10602

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY STING LIKE A BEE

Are you ready to be knocked out by love and passion? Romantic hdsm, down to earth GWM prfl, 29 w/dark hair and eyes, gym M body and good sense of humor sks similar man for fun and love. I like movies, dinners w/friends, dancing, etc. Seeking warm person for hot times on cool nights. Shy on first date, fun on second. Let's get together! Outweek Box 2111

GWM, 28, 6'1", 180 LBS.

br/bl, hirsute, Irish bkgrnd, straight acting/appearing, conservative profession, considered attractive. Ouiet and shy at times. Enjoy European travel, music, dancing, movies, eating out. Looking forward to hearing from you. Thank you. P.O. Box 1993 Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10159.

"A REAL LOVER"

You-Irish, German, Slav or Nordic male 17-31, under 5'10" attractive healthy fit smooth body and an insatiable sexual appetite. Me-Latin male 27 5'9" tight muscles aggressive good looking prefer hot steaming and long love making sessions. Serious

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DOUBLE DATE

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SPIT NEEDS BIG young dude (like Spit) with all his original parts (like Spit) for sweaty sessions in Washington, DC. Splt knows how to make his buddy happy. Out-week Box 2042

ACT UP CLONE? Fine with me, I know there's more than black leather and Dockmartins in your closet. Do you fanta-size about having a good straight-bashing? Like to hold hands and kiss in public? Don't mind mixing Boy Bar til 4 a.m. w/reading Oscar Wilde on Sunday over croissants and juice? Have a nice body and not too many quirks? Play safely? Then you're for me and I'm for you. Person of notso-much color w/dancer's body and steel blue eyes, decid-edly unchic brn hair, 5'9", seeks a light fuck buddy relationship, with options for manic obsession later on. Outweek Box 2049

(212) 873-2307 Expert blow jobs for men with unusually fat cocks-know how big around it is when you call. I'm hot and handsome, blond, German, 34, in West 60's, Call Horst (212) 873-2307.

TINY ORIENTAL **GUYS**

or other "miniature" types wanted to service six foot German blond man hung very large who likes his balls-almost as large as eggs-given special attention. Send photo and phone— Manhattan. Outweek Box 2047

LOVING BM

SOUGHT BY WM, 30's, 165#, black hair, blue eyes. We both want a lifetime relationship. In addition, you have a super smooth, virtually hair-less body, slender but not thin; you LOVE to suck, you like getting fucked, you love to kiss and are extremely affectionate. If possible, you are 5'7" to 5'11" and 20's to 40. Give me a call after 9 pm: (212) 549-8437.

OUT AS HELL SEEKS CLOSET CASE

Do you beat off to the pictures in Men's Fitness because you're too scared to buy Torso? Are you uptight? Do you weara tie to Have beard(not the facial kind)? Then hang OUT with mel Ridiculously butch but queer WM, 27 yrs. downtown type, w/ hot butt and thighs and lotsa massage training seeks muscular uptight Gupple who doesn't get any. I'll make you pop with PC safe fun. Race, smoker, bad taste not important. Just have a big bed and a lot of muscle for me to grab. Outweek Box 2051

YUPPIES WANTED: Do you go to work in a pin striped suit?Do you like to listen to Mozart with your Sun-day brunch? Do you like to spend Saturdays in a gallery and shopping in D.F. Saunders? If you said yes to these questions and you're between 27-35 and if you think opposites attract, then let's get together. I am a G W M 29 185 5'10" artistic and very creative, warm, funny, attractive and very healthy, I love long walks and holding hands, cuddling. I am looking for someone to share good timesand a meaningful relationship. Send letter with photo. Outweek Box 2059

ELIGIBLE YOUNG BACHELOR

seeks same. I'm a Wail Street lawyer, 33, 5'6", 130, br/br, a nice and reasonably presentable guy with fairly normal likes and habits (books, theatre, dance, workouts. squash, food, travel) looking for somebody else sort of like that. PO Box 7427, Grand Central Station, New York 10163.

GWM, 33, 5'9", 150 LBS.

Br/br, masc., athletic, clean cut good looks. I'm Into media, architecture, and healthy skepticism. You:



Safer Sex Guidelines

- USE A CONDOM WHEN FUCKING. Avoid oil-based lubricants such as baby oil, Vaseline, Crisco etc., as they can cause condoms to break. Instead use water-based lubes like KY. The older a condom, the less reliable, so find condoms whose manufacturers' dates are less than three months old.
- USE A CONDOM DURING ORAL SEX. If you don't, avoid placing the head of your partner's cock in your mouth. HIV-infected cum or precum can enter your bloodstream through cuts, tears or ulcers in your mouth.
- USE DENTAL DAMS DURING ORAL-VAGINAL SEX. HIV is present in some amounts in vaginal secretions, urine, menstrual blood, and infection-related vaginal discharge.
- 4. NEVER SHARE WORKS. This includes needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons or cookers. If you must reuse works, clean them after each use with bleach, or in an emergency with rubbing alcohol or vodka, by drawing the solution into the needle three times and then drawing clean water into the needle three times.
- AVOID FISTING, RIMMING, OR SHARING UNCLEANED SEX TOYS.
- 6. AVOID POPPERS.
- AVOID EXCESSIVE ALCHOHOL OR DRUG USE. Many people are unable to maintain safer sex practices after getting high.
- DON'T HESITATE TO: Fuck with a condom, have oral sex with a condom. Play with, but don't share, clean sex toys, vibrators and dildoes. Enjoy massage, hugging, masturbation (alone, with a partner or in a group), and roleplaying.







smart, eclectic, comfortable in a gym, and single. Late 20's, early 30's. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 2065

I SUBMIT TO MUSCLE

Muscular, gdlkg WM 40 hunk 5'8" 160#. HIV-, wants to play with stronger, very muscular studs. Wrestling, bondage, submission, JO, any afternoon or evening. SS, no drugs. Photo? Phone. POB 1916. Old Chelsea Station, NY, 10011.

ROMANCE

GWM, 31, 5'9", 175, healthy, average looks, friendly, nice guy, seeking GWM 20-35 who is cute, sincere, unpretentious, non-smoker. I'd like to meet a caring, gentle guy for best friend and romance. My interests include movies, music, long walks. Please write PO Box 523, New York, NY 10040.

GWM 30, 5'7", 150 LBS.,

blk/gr, dark masculine good looks. Smart, outgoing, healthy HIV+. Into film, photography, and progressive thinking. Seeks attractive peer who is fun, reasonably together and single. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 2069

ON THE EDGE

music movies and humor intrigue me, but I like my men down to earth. Very handsome, muscular 27 y.o. GWM, 5'9", 150 solid lbs., bl/bl, cleanshaven, Looking for similar (age and body) Intelligent guy Into working out, cuddling. wrestling, politicking. If you're willing to take a chance and go for it, so am I. Photo a must. P.O. Box 61, NYC, NY 10101.

GAY COUPLE IN PARK SLOPE

seeks 3rd or other couple for fun and friendship, We're 35, prof., enjoy videos,

plays, music and all you would expect. No drugs, SS only. Send phone, photo. Go sheed and make next weekend one to remember, Outweek Box

LOOKING FOR RO-MANCE

GWM, blond, goodlooking, muscular, 26. I like reading, funky poetry, art, back-packing, road trips, writing. working out. Sick of bar scene, especially Charlie's. You: cute, smart, single, under 30. Outweek Box 2072

GWM 26, 5'8". 135 LBS.,

brn/brn boyish good looks, smart fun and wry. Seeks similar or others. Photo and phone to Outweek Box 2068

GWM, 36, 6'2" TALL, 150 lbs., brown hair, green eyes, I'm presently in prison, but I'm "everything" you'd want in a real partner. I just need a little help to get me out of prison. I'd like to here from anyone, especially those in their 50's and 60's. If you can send stamps it will help. Write very soon. You will not regret it. Ronnie Meadows, #29027, P.O. Box 128 KY State Pen., Eddyville, KY, 42038-0128

ATTENTION: BODY BUILDERS

Tired of the stereotype that BBs only like other guys with muscles? Want to get fucked by a man who doesn't work out, but knows how to work your butt? GWM, 6', 165, 32, blk/br likes rock hard bodies and wants to fuck you until you squirt all over yourself. Send ph/ph to POB 7354, NYC, 10116.

WARM-BLOODED

GWM, 25, br/br, 5'10", 140, grad student, progressive, intelligent, attractive, energetic, and very funny, seeks like-minded GM, 24-

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35, for enjoyable times and a solid healthy relationship. A nice letter, photo, phone (or address) gets same from me. Outweek Box 2075

LOVER AND BEST FRIEND

Compassionate, up-beat Manhattan WM wants to share life with another good-looking and earthy guy, 30-45. I'm 43, 5'9", 155 and hope this might meet a kindred soul who'd rather avoid wasting time in bars. Photo and note appreciative to Box 746, NY, NY 11364. Your reply may make us both happyl

FRIENDSHIP NO LOVERS

Spanish bisexual male mid 40's professional. into arts and classical music, likes to meet a gay or bisexual Black professional, Masouline male over age of 45, no drugs, looks is unimportant. Outweek Box 2077

PLANNING A **BIKE TRIP**

for a week + to north-ern and west-central Florida at the end of March and looking for a riding companion. 50-60 miles a day on flat pretty country roads. Any age, race GM. P.O. Box 325-B, NYC, 10108.

LIGHTS...CAMERA...? I need fotos to answer these ads. Attr GWM. 5'11", 190, br/hz, seeks amtr photog to shoot both mild & wild poses. I'll show off my bod, you show off your darkroom skills. P.O. Box 2520, Times Square Station, NYC, 10108.

GJM, 47, 6"1", 170 LBS.

doctor, businessman, handsome. curly brown hair. Enjoy classical music, reading. seek younger, serious GWM to share sex and other mutual interests. I like slim build, boyish looks, smooth body. Blonds a +. Letter, ph/ph, Outweek Box 2081

GORILLAS WANTED Tall, handsome, WASP, 42, hung and snappy

dresser wants occasional dates with super hairy dudes. An inter-est in the arts and a well-honed eroticism and kinkiness (safe on-ly pls.) would also be appreciated. Box 6537, Grand Central Station, 10163-6022.

ARE YOU LIKE ME? You already have a "friend" but looking for a "buddy"-this is my first ad-I'm masculine very affectionate and romantic-52 friends say 42-6 ft-186-Mediterraneanhung-hairy chest-healthy-also interested in good talk-good food-and good musicsend phone-photo less important-let's talk firsti P.O. Box 20322, DHCC, NY, NY 10017.

HEALTHY HORNY Handsome, hung. HIV+, looking for safe fun relationship not nec. 35 all American looks, reply let & pho-to. Specify desires - I'll call you. Outweek Box 1818

YOU'RE RAUNCHY-But also hot-looking, smart, verbal and a pig only when you feel like it. ME too. And I'm attr, mid-30's, hung and insatiable. Tell me how you get really sloppy, buddy. Full let-ter/photo to POB 150, Prince St. Sta., NYC 10012.

MIND OVER MATTER!

Can I believe that you'll be true? I'll give it a try with someone new. This considerably handsome GBM, 23, 5'9", is looking for some fun and action from you who might be the right guy. If you're a GBM, age 18-28, send itr/phone and/or photo. Outweek Box 1983

DISILLUSIONED BUT HOPEFULI

Aren't there others who still believe in the Importance of fundamental values and who desire a long-lasting relationship between two loving car-ing men? I'm GWM, 35, 1458, 5'8", intelligent, fun, attractive and sincere. If you are a GWM, age 18-40

YOU MAKE THE CALL... WE MAKE THE CONNECTION THE REST IS UPTO YOU.

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and share similar values. Pls send ph/ph to Box 1171, Cooper Station, NY, NY 10003.

SECOND COMING

Handsome muscular WM, 34, 5'10", 175, has lover but seeks very muscular M or BB for regular explosive wkday action. Chest hair a must, your plo gets mine. Send to Box 306, Brooklyn, NY

HIV + P/WARC

VISA

GWM 26 6'2" 200 lbs. bl/bl hot horny hung very attractive intelligent professional seeks safe sex buddy for great uncomplicated sex. Muscular or stocky men needed for afternoon sex sessions. No fats, fems or hustiers. Reply to: P.O. Box 63, 496A Hudson Street, NY, NY 10014.

BODYBUILDER

GWM 37, 190#, brown hair and eyes, 5'11". I'm looking for a GM with muscles to spare. A take charge type of man, for dating, romance, safe sex, possible relationship. Reply with current photo, letter, tel.# to LTS 20053, NYC 10011-9993

> MUSCULAR JOCK DADDY

BB Trainer and promasseur, Br/Br, 40's, 6', 185, u/c, Bl, Scand, College Grad, nonsmoker, travel, sports, arts. Seeks young jock bottom. Box 1706, 2109 B'way NYC, 10023. Warm, friendly nice guy.

ATTRACTIVE

Prof'l GWM, 26, 175, 6'2". Dark blond with beard and stache. Looking for Mr. Tall: 5'10" or above, Dark: brown to black hair. stache a plus, Handsome: self-explanatory. Prospective GWM should be 25-40, prof'l, stable, fit, masculine and enjoy the arts and sensual safe sex. Letter, phone and photo appreciated. Outweek Box 2102

GWM, 26, 5'8", 140, BIG seeks younger strt, bl, or gay male to enter-

tain, spoil and help

through school, I'm cute and fun to be with and I care about you. You don't need to write your life story or send a photo. Serious replies answered with photo. Serious replies answered with photo. Box 1365, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

NAIVE CYNIC/

ADULT KID GWM, 23, 6'2" with multi-faceted personality seeks fascinating GM, 20-30, to enjoy all sides. Button-down professional by day, bon vivant by night; beach bum in summer, playgoer in winter. I seek a man to compilment my varied taste with his own style. If you want a strong. steady relationship that won't grow old, send your ph/ph to Outweek Box 2105

COCK CONTEST!

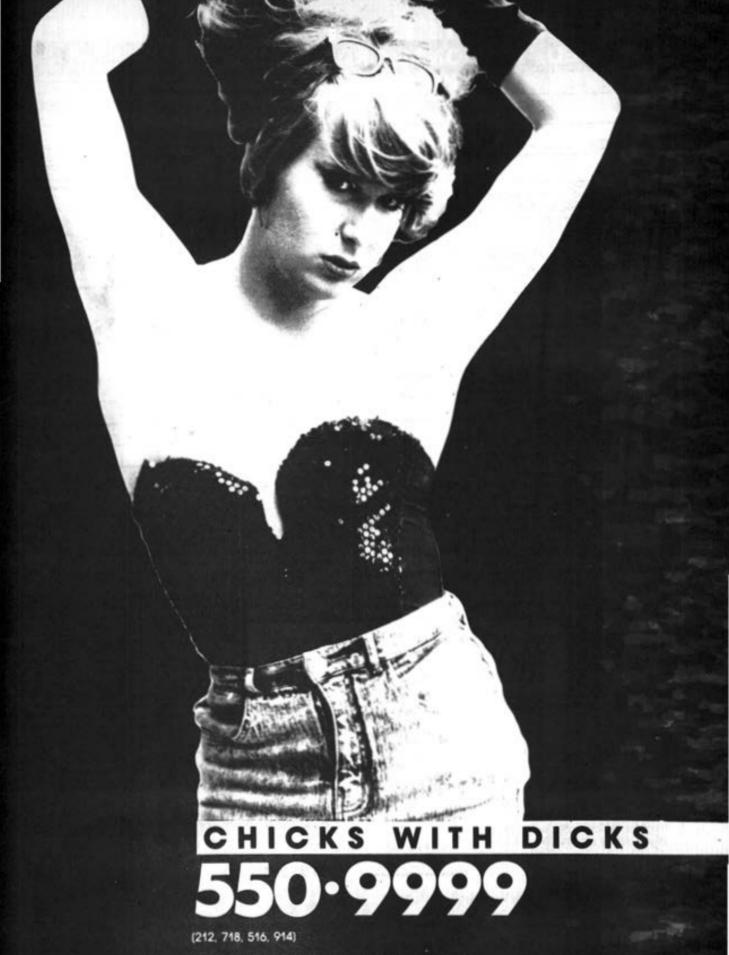
B/W gay couple late 20's want to know who has the biggest or most goodlooking cock around! Prizes include an unforgettable fun-filled evening. Do you have that special dick? Prove it! Send photo to Box 697 Contest, Midwood, NY 11230.

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY STING LIKE A BEE

Are you ready to be knocked out by love and passion? Romantic hdsm, down to earth GWM prli, 29 w/dark hair and eyes, gym M body and good sense of humor aks similar man for fun and love. I like movies, dinners w/friends, dancing, etc. Seeking warm person for hot times on cool nights. Shy on first date, fun on second. Let's get together! Outweek Box 2111

> GWM 30, 5'7". 150 LBS.,

blk/gr, dark masculine good looks. Smart, outgoing, healthy HIV+, Into film, photography, and progressive thinking, Seeks attractive peer who is fun, reasonably together and single. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 2069



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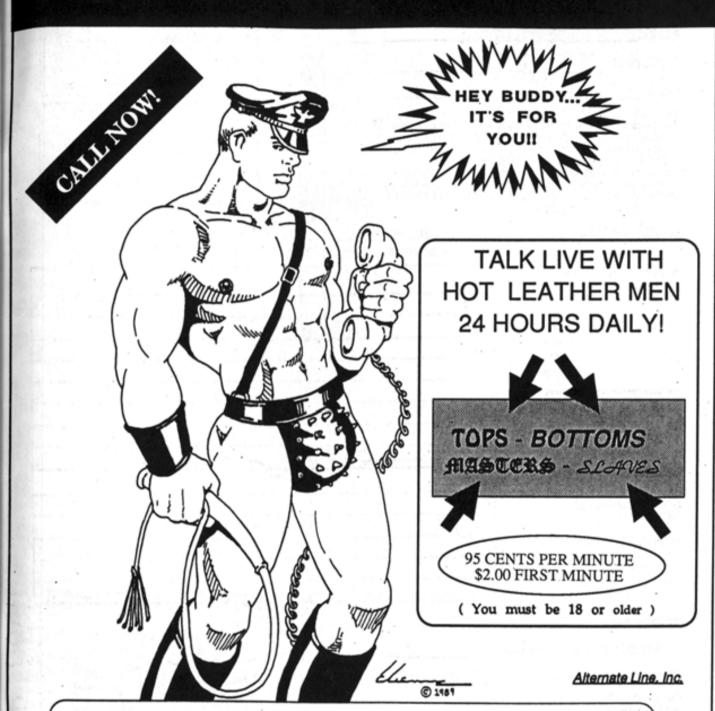
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OutWeek Crossword

by Greg Boeshans

Edited by Gabriel Rotello

1	2	3	4.	5		6	7	8			9	10	11	
12	T	T	†	t		13	$^{+}$	t	14	1	15	+	$^{+}$	16
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	71	T	T			72	+	+		73	+	+	+	+

SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE MONDAY

ACROSS

- 1. South American tribe
- Not cedar
- 9. Peppard co-star
- 12. Calyx unit
- 13. Do farmwork
- 15. Small plateau
- 17. Foodfish
- 18. Taj town
- Deceives
- 20. 1923 Helen R. Hull novel with lesbian subplot
- 23. Saucy
- 26. Serv. org.
- 27. Exploit
- 28. Japanese film classic
- 29. Time discriminator
- 32. Poplar
- 34. "So I grabbed up the skeleton thick sunflower and stuck my side like a scepter," Ginsberg
- 36. Bus. abbr.
- 37. King topper
- 38. Subtitle of Gertrude Stein's "Melanctha"

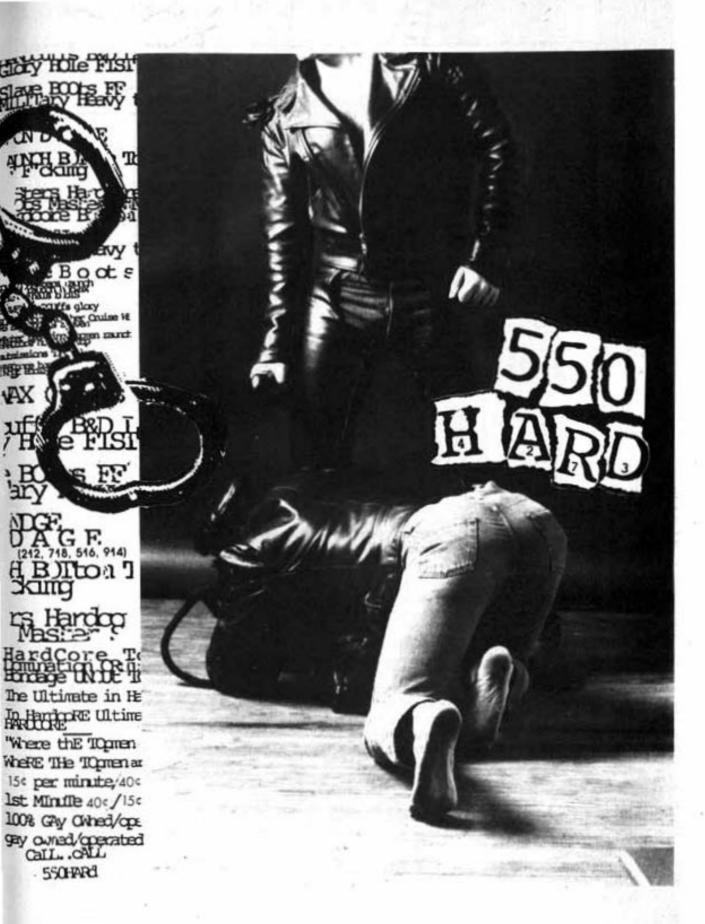
- 44. *___grown accustomed to your face"
- 45. Turned on
- 46. Type measure
- 47. After mill or gall
- 50. Pompously virile
- 52. Mistake
- 53. Particle
- 54. Map abbr.
- 56. Expressed pain
- 58. 1930 lesbian autobiography by pseudonymous Mary Casal
- Borscht base
- 63. Ron or Major ending
- 64. Newspaper sect.
- 68. Cheering sound
- 69. ____ and Lovers, DH Lawrence
- 70. Belonging to a famed emperor
- 71. Soak flax
- 72. Scoundrel
- 73. Beau ____, D.C. Wren

Christ's mount

- 2. Sleep acronym
- Simian
- Do I Hear A
- 5. A Davis
- Gemstone
- 7. Pool formation
- 8. Gymnast Olga
- 2051 to Caesar
- 10. Cowboy action
- 11. African disease agent
- 14. Means' partner
- Pallid
- 21. Power source
- 22. U.S. Archbishop
- Imported cheese
- 24. Polynesian chestnut
- 25. Son
- 30. Chem. ending
- 31. La _____, opera site
- Leak
- 35. Reed-like
- 37. Bronchial ailment
- 39. Showy
- 40. Ref. abbr.
- 41. Bearing
- 42. Farm measure
- 43. Cloth measure
- 47. Take a chair near
- 48. "The better _____ you, my dear."
- Cyclops feature
- 50. Telemachus's counselor
- 51. Not Darjeeling
- 55. Digits
- 57. "Tiny Alice" playwright
- 59. RBI
- 60. Ancient volcano
- 61. Actor Adam
- 65. Tax agcy.
- 66. Youngster
- 67. Compass pt.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

R	A	S	P		Α	R	1	8		R	A	P	E	D
A	B	E	L		G	E	N	E		Ε	М	0	T	E
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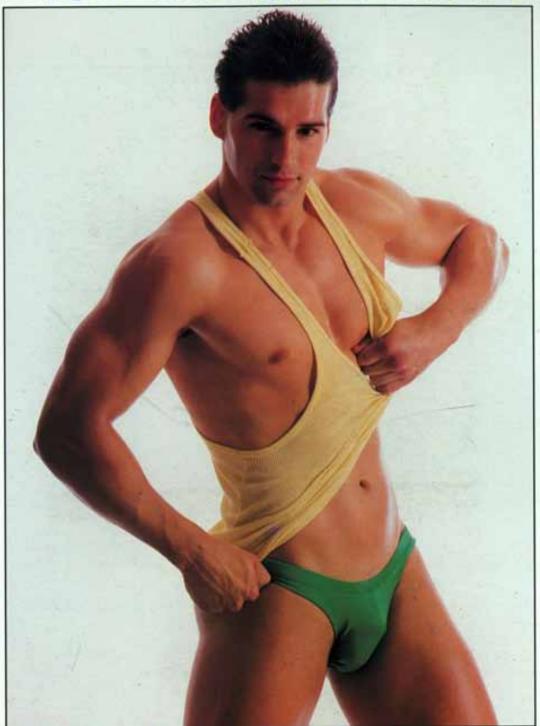




hoto by Ben Th

CHIP DUCKEET, notorious sex kitten of the gay pairty scene, is adding another night to his schedule of fun, fags, dykes and debacking. This one's at New York's latest foreign investment dibb Quikkil every Thursday night beginning February 15th, the Tri-Starts's morally corrupt and politically correct can gartier to darece, drink, argue of cry, sharing an experience guaranteied to charge the times. A one-time publicist and native Atlanton, Chip is an avant fan of stamp collecting, wind chimes and boys. Chip wants to bring back and create an "extensively sexual positiveness that equals fun but safe." One can catch Chip at one of his many gify participality days at Cametita's, Sundays at Mars or Thursdays at Quicklish mense you won't walk liwin limp or disy. Chips alroy!

DIAL NOW GUYS ARE WAITING!



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